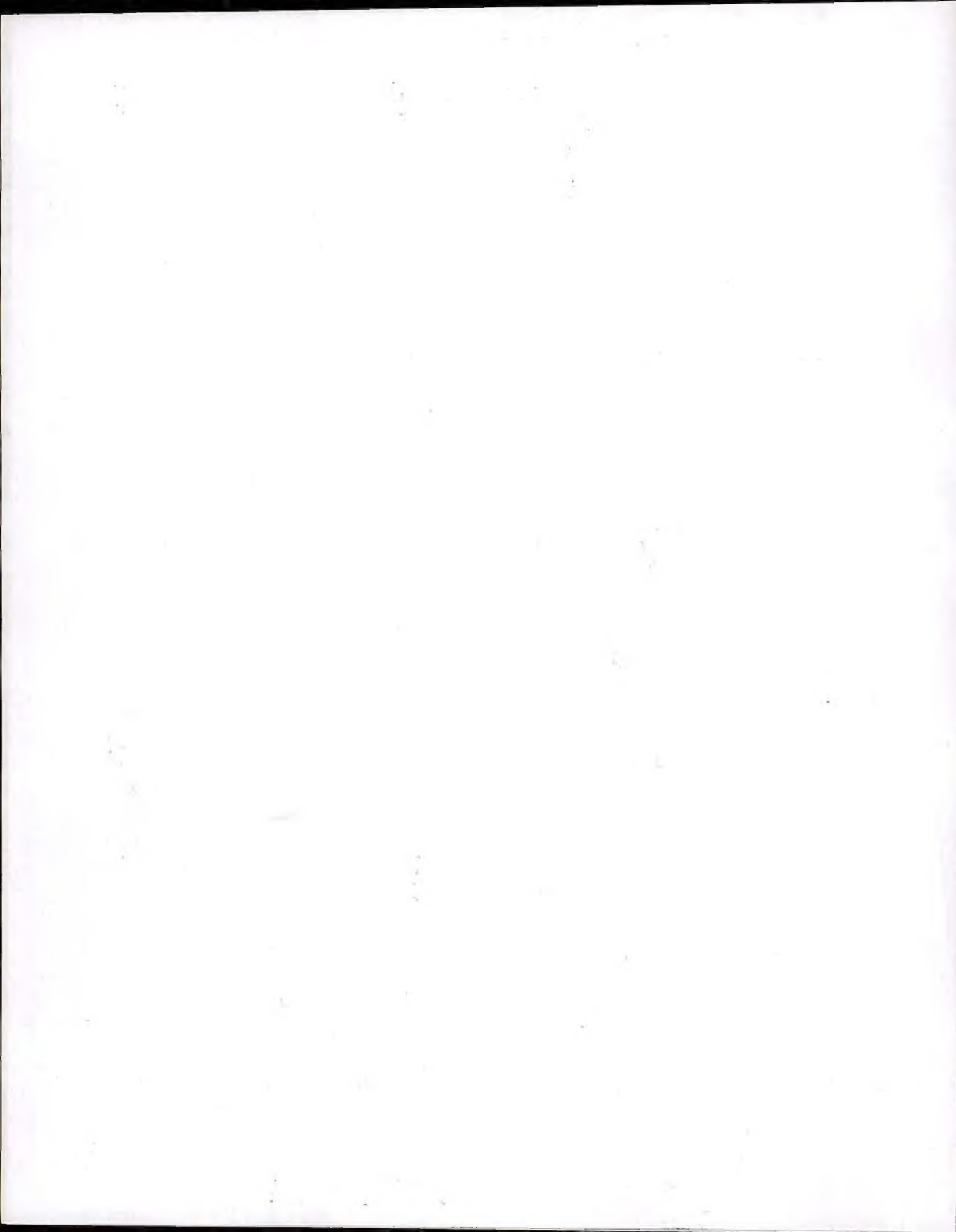


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UN Secretary Gets a 'Positive Reaction' From Argentina on Falklands Peace Plan

By FREDERICK KEMPE

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

United Nations Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar said last night he had received a "positive reaction" from Argentina to his proposals for ending the battle with Britain over the Falkland Islands.

The secretary-general also said the British government had assured him it was considering his peace plan "with great interest and a sense of urgency." He said he hoped to have a more substantive British reaction by today.

While Mr. Perez de Cuellar has refused to elaborate on the proposal, the chief elements were believed to be cessation of hostilities in the South Atlantic, withdrawal of both Argentine forces and the British battle fleet from the Falklands and appointment of a UN administrator while negotiations resume on the future of the islands. The issue of sovereignty was to be discussed at a later date.

Earlier yesterday, British officials had expressed skepticism about reported proposals—by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig and others—for an immediate 48-hour ceasefire. "It wouldn't be to Britain's advantage to agree to a ceasefire unless we are clear that we have a negotiating process which will get the Argentines off the island," Foreign Secretary Francis Pym told the House of Commons, echoing the sentiments of many members of Parliament, who greeted his words loudly and enthusiastically.

Nevertheless, he emphasized that diplomatic machinery was moving on a new Falklands peace plan proposed by the U.S. and Peru that would involve an "early cease-fire" and withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Falklands. Mr. Pym said he transmitted a contribution to the plan to Mr. Haig yesterday.

U.S.-British Talks

In Washington, Mr. Haig and British officials were holding what one diplomat called "intense and urgent and continuous" talks designed to complete a new peace plan. The U.S. worries that without a quick cease-fire it will be asked to help Britain in renewed bloody fighting, with disastrous consequences for American relations in Latin America.

Officials are already worrying about potentially serious anti-U.S. sentiment in Argentina. Argentines are seething about the U.S. decision to back Britain, and many of them suspect that American support emboldened or enabled Britain to sink the Argentine cruiser, General Belgrano. More than 300 men from that ship are missing. American diplomats fear that anger in Buenos Aires could erupt into open violence against Americans, which is why the families of some U.S. officials have been evacuated temporarily.

But Mr. Pym's resolve not to give ground—unless certain conditions were met—expressed the determined view of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government on the day following the Argentine missile attack on the HMS Sheffield that left the destroyer a deserted hulk. Defense Minister John Nott confirmed that the attack claimed at least 27 seamen's lives, with 30 injured and a further 30 still missing and probably dead. One British pilot also died when his Harrier was shot down.

Due to the escalation of the conflict, Defense Secretary Nott's private meeting in Brussels today with U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger takes on added importance. Britain is believed to be preparing a list of items it would like from the U.S., but Defense Ministry sources declined to divulge details.

Mr. Weinberger said, "We will find out if they have anything in mind, probably logistical or materiel support, supplies, additional things on Ascension Island," he said. "At the moment they haven't requested anything specifically and at this point it doesn't appear they need very much."

He said there wasn't any indication that U.S. military support for Britain would be followed by Soviet assistance for Argentina.

NATO Session

Mr. Nott and Mr. Weinberger's meeting will be followed by a regular meeting of North Atlantic Treaty Organization defense ministers, which also is expected to be dominated by discussion of the Falklands.

Britain has appeared intent on continuing the strict enforcement of its 200-mile exclusion zone around the Falkland Islands. However, following the British deaths, the government has also been under increasing pressure from the public and the British Parliament to find a breakthrough in the conflict. However, withdrawing the British fleet wouldn't accomplish this, Mr. Pym told Parliament yesterday.

"Without military pressure, there wouldn't be the slightest chance whatsoever of an Argentine withdrawal" from the islands, he contended. He said it has been extremely difficult to talk to the Argentines, as the Argentine foreign secretary's decisions could be so easily overruled. "The indication that I have is the junta make up their own minds—the generals, the admirals and anybody else they care to consult with them," he said.

U.S. officials say that Argentine President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri has privately signaled that he wants a peaceful way out. But the analysts fear that Adm. Jorge Anaya, another member of the three-man junta, may be clamoring for more military revenge. Adm. Anaya, who controls the Argentine navy, is considered the most militant junta member.

Some Reagan administration aides think

that the destruction of the HMS Sheffield also provided an opening for new negotiations. Now both sides have been stunned in battle, the aides reason, and Argentina perhaps scored enough of a face-saving victory to allow new talks to begin.

But pressure has been on the U.S. to help find a solution quickly. If fighting resumes, Latin American countries could begin siding more openly with Argentina and the U.S. would have to give Britain more help. That, in turn, would anger Argentina and hamper Mr. Haig's ability to be a peacemaker.

The mood in Britain after Argentina's attack on the HMS Sheffield was one of disbelief, anger and impatience. Radio talk shows were swamped with callers, divided between those calling for new military action and those wanting an immediate turn to negotiations and a cease-fire. The British confidence that accompanied the country's first military successes was clearly shaken.

One usually well-informed Conservative Party member of Parliament said military options for Britain's task force in the South Atlantic are being examined more closely. One option was believed to be the sinking of Argentine submarines.

Concern had arisen after reports that two modern Argentine submarines were inside the 200-mile exclusion zone around the Falklands. Sources named the submarines as the West German-built Salt and the San Luis. If the British intervention to eventually land on the Falklands with an invasion force—as some conservative members of Parliament believe is the case—they first would try to totally control the exclusion zone.

It appears the new impetus on the diplomatic front internationally also is being accompanied by a new impetus on the military front by Britain.

However, amid reports from U.S. newspapers of a fresh major sea battle in the South Atlantic, Mr. Nott told the House of Commons yesterday, "we have no knowledge of any naval battle going on in the Atlantic at the present time."

British officials conceded that Tuesday's losses, however sad, might have had one positive result. They underscored previously contested claims by Britain that its torpedoes were fired at the sunken General Belgrano as a preemptive defensive measure to protect the British fleet. British officials said that the Belgrano was 30 to 35 miles outside the exclusion zone, but insisted it, nonetheless, was posing a threat to British vessels.

Sentiments that had been building within the Common Market against Britain for its use of military force have cooled somewhat since the British vessel was struck by the Argentine missile.

Rather than focusing their attention on Britain, West European governments seem to be arguing more generally that both sides must stop hostilities. The West German and the French governments both called for an immediate suspension of the fighting to improve chances for mediation.

No Common Market government has yet pledged any support to the Irish demand that recently agreed-upon sanctions against Argentina be lifted by Common Market countries.



Philip Geyelin

Going to the Brink —But Not Beyond

John Foster Dulles had a way of putting even sensible things controversially, as when he proclaimed in a 1956 interview in *Life* magazine that "the ability to get to the verge without getting into war is the necessary art. If you cannot master it, you inevitably get into war—if you are scared to go to the brink, you are lost."

Admiral Stevenson and the Democrats quickly coined the buzzword "brinkmanship" and translated it into a willingness to engage in reckless bluffs. But in fairness, Dulles was only trying to get a handle on strategy as old as gunboat diplomacy and as new as the Falklands conflict: the threat of the use of force in a big and decisive way (sometimes by using it in a selective way) in an effort to achieve a diplomatic settlement or to deter an aggressive act.

Comes now the latest practitioner, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, with a very heavy hand. By blockading the Falklands, bombing airstrips, sinking warships, and threatening large-scale troop landings, the British are edging right up to what, for them, would constitute the "brink."

That would be the point just before a direct, all-out assault on East Falkland Island—the one where almost all the British inhabitants are—and a head-on clash with its Argentine occupiers. That operation, unlike a landing on the lightly defended western island, would sink a heavy British loss of life.

Nobody (save, perhaps, a few members of the Labor Party opposition on the far left) has so far been tasteless enough to call this "brinkmanship." But the Dulles doctrine, as he enunciated it in 1956, nicely defines the dilemma confronting the British in May of 1982. It also raises serious questions about Britain's ability to master "the necessary art."

This is not to knock the skill or the rightness of the British effort. It is merely to invite consideration of the considerable risks and uncertainties inherent in a strategy that turns as much on states of minds and political will as it does on firepower, military technology, morale and the capacity to deal with the particular physical conditions at hand.

The last are difficult enough to weigh, as you will doubtless have gathered from the sheer volume of military analysis: the performance ratings of ships, aircraft and troops on both sides. So far, the British have succeeded in a strictly military way, accomplishing carefully calibrated missions with a minimum of British—no distinct from Argentine—bloodshed.

But brinkmanship, in the best sense, is not a function of firepower alone. It has to do with each side's perceptions of the other, which is to say with essentially unknowables and unpredictable. It is not enough to "get to the brink." The mind-numbing nature of this business is that in order for it to succeed, the practitioner has to demonstrate convincingly a willingness to see it fail.

Now this would be one thing—and quite difficult enough—if Argentina's military dictatorship were Britain's only audience. But the sort of things the Thatcher government must say, and do, by way of chastening the junta in Buenos Aires are heard, and heard about, in Britain as well. And while the military feats may be heady stuff, earning Thatcher rising ratings in the polls, they plainly are not expected by the British public to result in the loss of British lives. The most recent sampling of British opinion shows 70 percent of the people "satisfied" with Thatcher policy. But about the same considerable majority does not think the Falklands are worth the shedding of British blood. The tactics so far employed by British forces suggest a keen awareness of this public sentiment.

Thatcher, in short, must necessarily strike a careful balance between the right combination of military pressure calculated to crack the will of the Argentines and a level of military action (and casualties) that is tolerable at home. Calculating the state of mind of the Argentine leadership is hard enough; calculating the Argentine leadership's calculation of the collective British state of mind introduces yet one more excruciating uncertainty.

When you add the worsening weather, which argues for a quick and conclusive turning of the military screws, to the need for a certain military prudence, which argues for caution, you have compounded the already considerable complexities of "the necessary art."

Before her of the destroyer Sheffield and the Harrier jet the British were comfortably ahead on points—though the sinking of the General Belgrano with hundreds of casualties may be giving even Britain's best friends some pause. But this conflict combines psychological warfare with calculated whiffs of the real thing. It turns heavily on the unpredictable play of internal politics. It is not, accordingly, an easy one for bystanders to score.

William D. Rogers

Britain Must Renounce Sovereignty

Each side has drawn blood. The fighting is escalating. But the Argentine-British conflict will not be settled on the battlefield.

Even if the task force is battered and turns back this time, the British government can renew the campaign next summer. By the same token, though the British may kill or capture the Argentine contingent in Port Stanley, this could only fan Argentine resentment and guarantee another attempt, next year or in the next generation—and then with more troops, more ships and planes, perhaps with nuclear arms, perhaps even with Soviet aid. However intense the present fighting, neither side will defeat the other in the South Atlantic. There is no such thing as a military resolution of this conflict. It must be settled politically.

The British and Argentine positions look to be irreconcilable. Argentina says it will talk about anything, including withdrawal and joint interim administration, as long as the islands are acknowledged to be its "sovereign" territory. The British have said that the Argentines must withdraw first.

But beneath the surface the British and Argentine positions are not utterly incompatible. London has not said that the Falkland Islands are and must forever remain British territory. From what has emerged so far, the British government is apparently driven by other aims: the vindication of the prohibition against the use of force in international affairs and the interests of the islanders. But it does not so far seem to be asserting an actual claim of ultimate national sovereignty.

Perhaps this can be turned to advantage in the search for peace. The British government

could state for all the world to know that it does not aspire to make the Falkland Islands a part of Britain, and that it renounces—quite claims, in lawyers' parlance—any rights it might have had to sovereign title.

The United States has followed this course in connection with disputed islands in the Caribbean. And so has Britain with respect to its other earlier interests in the New World, such as Guyana and Belize. It is important to us that it do so with respect to the Falklands/Malvinas—or at least that the world understand that we do not support any sovereign pretensions by Britain. While Secretary of State Alexander Haig was attempting to mediate, Britain's ultimate objectives were less important. Now we are an ally. We are therefore identified in the world's view with Britain's purposes.

In Latin America and elsewhere, Britain is understood to be reasserting ancient colonialist claims. There is a real danger that Latin America will come to believe that the United States shares those purposes, and that the alliance is at bottom an alliance of imperialism. We will pay a heavy price unless the British make clear that they have no territorial aspirations in this hemisphere—or unless we make clear that we reject such aspirations. A renunciation of British sovereignty claims, in short, could serve at least the lesser but important purpose of making clear the limited war aims of this new alliance.

It also might just conceivably help to open the door to peace.

Perhaps the British position could be set forth in a way that would permit Argentina to withdraw, since it could, after all, be taken in

Buenos Aires as eliminating the last sovereign claim competing with Argentina's. Argentina might then presume that its ultimate objective of recognized sovereignty was inevitable.

Britain does have legitimate interests in the effort. The vindication of the ban against the use of force in international relations is one. The protection of the interests of the islanders is the other. These purposes deserve universal support. Neither would be compromised by a renunciation of ultimate sovereignty.

As to the first, Argentine withdrawal would constitute compliance with U.N. Resolution 502 and so uphold the point that might does not create right.

As to the interests of the islanders, there are innumerable formulas—Puerto Rican-style autonomy and local self-government underwritten by international guarantees, or voluntary buy-outs and relocations—all of which would be more satisfactory from the standpoint of world peace than the present circumstance. Self-determination has a satisfying ring to it. But it is not a universal panacea. Local populations do not have an absolute veto over the general welfare. Ask the Quebecois, the Welsh, the Basques, the West Bank Arabs, or any American Indian.

A British renunciation of sovereignty may not square the circle of conflict, but it could conceivably open the door to peace; and it would at least clarify American purposes. The United States has a desperate need to urge London to the step.

The writer, a Washington lawyer, is a former undersecretary of state.

Joseph Kraft

Blundering Into War

The United States will probably pay a price for the fighting around the Falklands. So it is important to understand why this country's diplomatic efforts to avert conflict failed. We need to know not only what happened, but, more important, what didn't happen.

In retrospect, a different American approach comes easily to mind. Washington could have asserted in an unmistakable way its position up front, instead of letting it emerge slowly as events developed. In that case, two pieces of information would have been communicated to London and Buenos Aires at the outset of the crisis in March.

First, it would have been known that the United States is bound so closely and in so many different ways to Britain that in the end no separation was possible. If it came to fighting, Washington was sure to help London.

Second, it would have been known that, whatever the philosophic merits of the case, Washington considered Argentina the aggressor in the Falklands. Thus the United States could not possibly support Buenos Aires under the Rio Treaty.

In Britain, foreknowledge of those realities would have made little difference. Once Mar-

garet Thatcher decided to make seizure of the Falklands more than a joke, she put herself under the spur of necessity. Her government had to move toward military action or fall from power. Conditions in the South Atlantic dictated that military action be taken swiftly, not long postponed. Thus, while Britain could afford to talk about negotiations, the big margin for maneuver was with Argentina.

The Argentine decision-making apparatus, we now know, involves wheels within wheels within wheels. Gen. Leopoldo Galtieri may be the president and the leader of the military junta, but he has to check decisions with colleagues in the navy and the air force. He is also subject to veto by corps commanders and other officers in the army itself. All the military, moreover, works against the background of a possible return to power by the civilian followers of Juan Peron—the left-wing Peronistas.

Had the Argentine leaders known in advance the final American position, they would have had a month to work out a deal among themselves. They might have come up with a formula that would have allowed Mrs. Thatcher to call off the dogs of war.

As it happened, however, the United States

WASHINGTON POST — 6 MAY/82

dealt only with Galtieri and his foreign minister, Nicanor Costa Mendez. Several different proposals requiring quick answers were brought forth against an ambiguous background of what would follow. Twice, Galtieri seemed to have agreed. But he could not win the approval of his colleagues in the junta. The Argentine leadership—living in a remote part of the world, cut off from realities and unused to making quick decisions—proved unequal to the peril it faced.

The United States cannot legitimately be blamed. The Reagan administration made a good-faith effort to avoid war. It operated under plausible assumptions about the Argen-

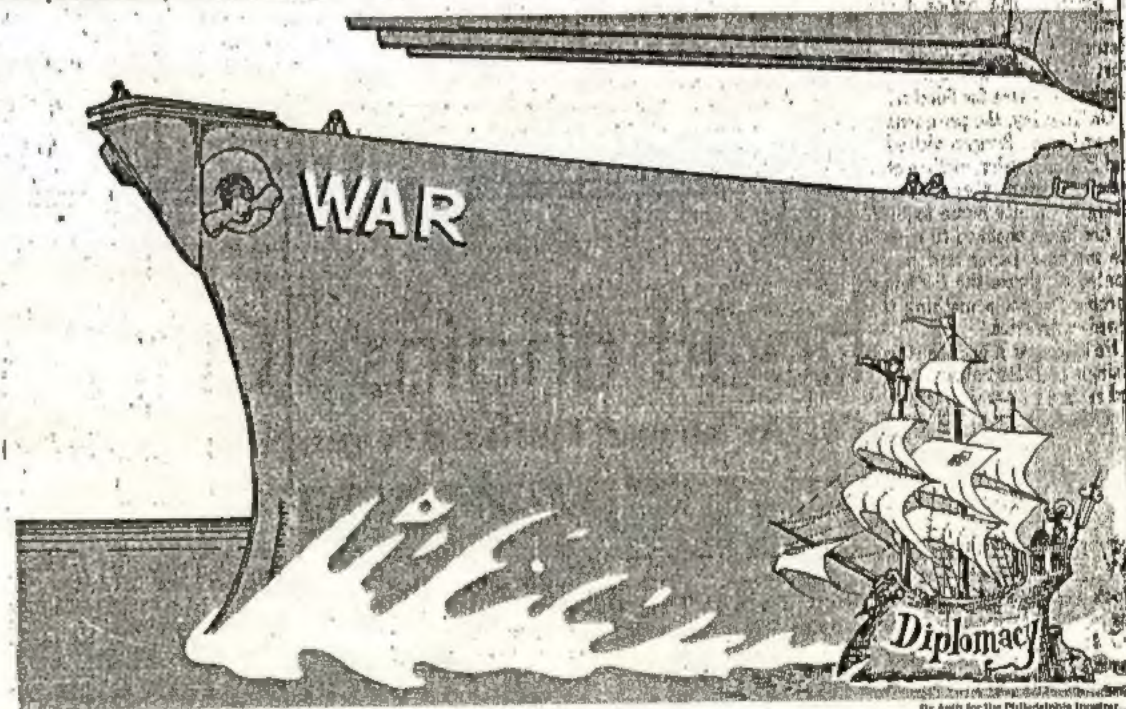
tine leadership. It showed enormous patience. It risked relations with this country's closest ally to save the bacon of an indifferent friend. Indeed, if Mrs. Thatcher proves unable to consolidate early military gains and is left to twist slowly in the gales of the South Atlantic, many in Britain and elsewhere will find fault with the United States.

But that record, however decent, is not going to cut ice in Latin America. The Brazilians, the Mexicans, the Venezuelans and Chileans do not love the Argentines. They defeat that country for its arrogance, and they live in fear of the mass-based autocracy that in Peronism.

But they also resent the United States and its dominant economic position in their world. They look for grievances against Washington. So Americans will be made to carry the can for what the British have done. We will not soon hear the end of complaints that the United States was a bad neighbor, lacking in hemispheric solidarity and favoring the imperialists.

In those conditions, it is important to keep in mind that the true source of difficulty was in Buenos Aires. The Argentine military leaders were not up to their responsibilities. In the crisis they lacked poles, and blundered into war.

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By Auth for the Philadelphia Inquirer

Crisis in the Falklands: Argentina Tightens Belt, Britain Talks of Truce

ARGENTINA IMPOSES AUSTERITY MOVES

It Sharply Devalues the Peso in
a Step to Increase Exports
and Finance War Effort

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, May 5 — The Argentine Government devalued the peso today as part of a series of economic moves aimed at spurring exports and helping to finance the war effort.

Diplomatic activity also increased here as the Government sought to take advantage of the changed climate since the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano was sunk on Sunday by a British submarine and the British destroyer Sheffield was wrecked Tuesday by a missile fired from an Argentine plane.

It was announced that Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez would go to the United Nations as soon as the Security Council decided to meet again on the crisis. The Council was awaiting Argentine and British replies to a proposal by Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar for a cease-fire, phased withdrawal of military forces from the Falklands area and United Nations administration of the islands pending negotiation of their status.

So far Argentina has not dropped its insistence that there must be a guarantee that Britain would yield sovereignty over the islands, which were seized April 2, in the talks. However, some foreign diplomats say they have detected a slight softening of this position.

Support in Council Sought

The Foreign Ministry called in ambassadors one by one to lobby for their countries' support in the council.

There were no further reports of military action during the day, and the military said that 800 of the 1,042 men aboard the General Belgrano had now been rescued. Rescue operations were continuing, Capt. Juan Carlos Bon, chief of navy intelligence, reported.

The economic moves were announced today as the Argentine economic situation continued to worsen. A 17 percent devaluation of the official exchange rate was ordered, making a dollar worth 14,000 pesos, an increase of nearly 2,000. On the black market, however, a dollar was bringing 18,000 pesos.

Slight decreases in import taxes on some items were announced, and some increases were ordered in rebates to manufacturers of exported goods.

Outflow of Foreign Exchange

These were the latest in a series of moves designed to spur exports, restrict imports in general and stem the flow of foreign exchange out of the coun-



Survivor of the sinking of the General Belgrano being greeted by Argentine officer upon his arrival in Bahía Blanca.

try. Argentina is said to have about 30 billion in hard currency reserves.

To conserve fuel for military use, the Government announced tonight that it would raise gasoline prices 30 percent.

The Argentine military remained silent through the day on its attack on the British destroyer Sheffield. It issued a communiqué on the action that said only that navy fighter-bombers, escorted by air force planes, attacked British ships at 10:30 A.M. Tuesday inside the blockade zone, 80 miles southeast of the Falklands.

This differed from British accounts, which also changed between Tuesday and today.

First British Account

On Tuesday night, British reports suggested that, when attacked, the Sheffield was west of the Falklands acting as a radar picket ship with the assignment of warning the main task force of any Argentine air activity. Today, however, British officials said the destroyer had actually been with other elements of the task force 70 miles from the Falklands. But that would place it northeast of the islands, where the task force has been reported since the blockade began.

Asked why no formal announcement had been made of the hit on the Shef-

field by an Exocet missile, an Argentine military spokesman replied that the pilots had fired their weapons 23 miles away from the British ships and never saw their targets.

According to the spokesman, the pilots reported that their radar had recorded hits on two British ships, the Sheffield and one other. The British, who first reported the attack on the Sheffield, did not say that any other ship had been involved.

The missile, a French-made weapon, has a range of nearly 43 miles when fired from a plane. It homes in on its target by radar, traveling six to nine feet above the water as it approaches.

Response to British Attack

The command said that the air attack was an exercise of a "right of legitimate defense," in response to a British air attack at 5:30 A.M. on the airfield at Stanley, the capital of the Falklands.

The command also said today that a damaged naval auxiliary vessel, the 608-ton Sobral, was nearing Puerto Deseado, about 1,200 miles south of here, under its own power. An earlier communiqué said that the vessel had been on a mission to rescue a downed pilot when it was attacked by British helicopters early Monday. A navy spokesman said that previously the So-

bral, which carries a crew of 46, was thought to have been lost.

The British version of this incident is considerably different. The British announced on Monday that their helicopters had sunk one Argentine patrol craft and damaged another after a helicopter had been fired on by the vessels.

Argentine television reported today that two Argentine pilots whose Canberra bomber was shot down in an air battle with the British on Saturday were aboard a Polish fishing ship. The broadcast identified them as Lieut. Eduardo Reyes and Sgt. José González.

Argentine Foreign Ministry officials said that today's flurry of diplomatic activity was intended to take advantage of growing world criticism of Britain since the sinking of the General Belgrano, which was 36 miles south of the blockade zone when it was attacked.

Foreign diplomats reported that they were handed notes at the ministry Tuesday and today asking their Governments to urge restraint on the British. They said statements were then read to them saying that negotiations with Britain through the United States had been "suspended."

One ambassador said the implication was that the talks had been dropped because the United States had sided with Britain.

U. S. Navy Debate Sharpens

By RICHARD HALLORAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 5 — The naval engagements between Britain and Argentina in the South Atlantic have added urgency to a debate here over the future of naval forces in an era of advanced guided missiles and torpedoes.

The debate, centering on the Reagan Administration's plan for naval expansion, has been quickened by the devastating consequences of the use of a new generation of weapons in the largest naval actions since World War II.

An Argentine cruiser and patrol boat and a British destroyer were sunk in rapid succession just as the Senate began debating a military budget authorization, which includes a downpayment on a \$168 billion, five-year program of shipbuilding and aircraft procurement.

In the dispute over the fundamentals of naval warfare, each side has found new arguments to buttress its position.

The Secretary of the Navy, John F. Lehman Jr., rushed back from a trip to Europe to stress that the Falkland Island battles underscored the need for the naval program, specifically, for two new 90,000-ton aircraft carriers.

He was supported by Senator William S. Cohen, chairman of an Armed Services subcommittee on sea power, who said the new antiship weapons showed that "there is no low-threat area anymore." Senator Cohen, who is a Maine Republican, said the United States had the choice of retiring to its own shores or building a superior navy.

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But Senator Gary Hart, a Colorado Democrat who is also sits on the Armed Services Committee, said in a letter to other senators today that "surface ships have proven more vulnerable than many expected."

He plans to submit an amendment that would order the Navy to build two 40,000-ton aircraft carriers for one of

Continued on Page A16, Column 5

U. S. Navy Debate Sharpens

Continued From Page 1

the larger carriers while deferring construction of the second large carrier.

In the past, the United States Navy has said that modern ships were needed against the Soviet Navy while less capable ships might be adequate in "low-threat" areas, meaning the third world.

With the loss of the British destroyer as a result of the Argentines' use of a French-made missile, an era of high threat appears to have opened even in the third world. As Senator Cohen said, "There is no place to hide now."

In the loss of the three warships in the South Atlantic, one fact stands out: In each case, electronically controlled "smart" weapons, some of them relatively inexpensive, won the day.

In the first sinking, on Sunday, the British nuclear-powered submarine Conqueror fired two Mark 24 torpedoes guided by wires and acoustic homing devices at the 44-year-old Argentine cruiser General Belgrano. The cruiser sank with the loss of 300 sailors.

The second sinking, on Monday, occurred when a British Lynx helicopter, capable of flying at 140 knots, fired Sea Skua missiles equipped with radar homing devices with a range of 15 miles at a still unidentified Argentine patrol craft, sinking it almost immediately.

And on Tuesday, an Argentine Super Etendard fighter-bomber, built in

France, fired Exocet missiles, also made in France, at the 4,100-ton British destroyer Sheffield 20 miles away, setting it afire and causing the crew to abandon ship. The missile cost \$200,000, the destroyer about \$50 million.

Naval officers said the Sheffield burned because its superstructure, made of aluminum as a weight-saving device, caught fire in the high temperature caused by the detonation of the high-explosive warhead. Many warships built in the mid-1970's have the same flaw, the officers said.

They also said that the British destroyer lacked the advanced radar, jamming devices and antimissile missiles that might have prevented the Exocet from hitting the ship.

Mr. Lehman, the Navy Secretary, contended that the United States' large aircraft carriers with their high-performance F-14 interceptors would have prevented the Argentine fighter plane from coming within range.

The loss of the Sheffield, he said, "illustrates extremely well why we are so insistent on the big carrier instead of the small carrier."

Senator Hart, in his letter to his colleagues, said he was not proposing light carriers like those of the British in the South Atlantic, which carry only Harrier jump-jets, but carriers with catapults and arresting gear capable of handling planes like the larger carriers.

Crisis in the Falklands: For London, a Bitter Turn of Fortunes

British Destroyer Set Afire;
About 30 Are Reported Lost

Continued From Page A1

build, and was fitted with the most modern weapons and electronic systems.

Military sources said an Argentine Super Etandard jet had fired two missiles at the Sheffield within the 300-mile British blockade zone around the Falklands.

One of the missiles missed, the sources said, but the other scored a direct hit on the destroyer's command center amidships. The missile appeared to have been fired from 20 miles away.

Britain's reversal came a few hours after the declaration of a second series of raids on Falkland airfields and in the wake of attempts by the Prime Minister to defend her decision to ask the Argentine to withdraw its forces from the Falklands.

Defense Minister Nott said during a Commons session of the House of Commons that earlier air strikes on Saturday had made the Stanley runway unusable to heavy transport planes from the mainland.

"A further sortie was made today," he said, "to render the air strip unusable to light supply, communications and ground attack aircraft operating from the Falkland Islands themselves."

New Speculations About a Landing

The latest raid revived speculation that a landing, probably with a relatively small force in a remote area, was imminent. Military men suggested that the intention of the strike was a preliminary move to such a landing.

The Defense Minister said a rudimentary air strip at Goose Green, near the southern tip of the island, was the last of the Falklands, and also was bombed.

He disclosed that on Sunday the task force attacked what was believed to have been an Argentine submarine "which was clearly in a position to torpedo our ships." He told the House that it was not known whether the submarine had been hit.

Meanwhile, a report circulated in military quarters that for the last two days a British submarine had been shadowing Argentina's 19,395-ton aircraft carrier *Vesuvio* de Mayo.

The sinking of the 13,845-ton General Belgrano, which as the *Phoenix* survived the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor of years ago, dominated the Commons debate.

Prime Minister Thatcher said Britain regretted the loss of life. At the time she spoke, it appeared that no more than 500 of the 1,041 crew members of the cruiser had survived.

But she said the ship had represented "a very obvious threat" to the British fleet.

"There was clearly aggressive intent on the part of the Argentine fleet and Government," she said. "Had we left it any later, it would have been too late, and then I might have had to come to the Commons with the news that some of our ships had been sunk. The worry I live with hourly is that Argentine forces in attacks, both naval and air, will get through to our forces."

But neither her answers nor those of Mr. Nott satisfied critics. Most of them on the opposition Labor Party's benches. They asked Mr. Nott how come the General Belgrano, which was 32 miles outside the British blockade zone, had come to the British fleet. He refused to reply. They asked why the submarine *Conqueror* had attacked the Argentine cruiser rather than her more modern escorts, two destroyers armed with Exocet missiles. Again Mr. Nott declined to respond.

Without success, Denis Healey the Labor spokesman on foreign policy, pressed for an answer to a third question. Could the nuclear-powered *Conqueror* have fired the torpedoes in such a way as to cripple the General Belgrano rather than sink her?

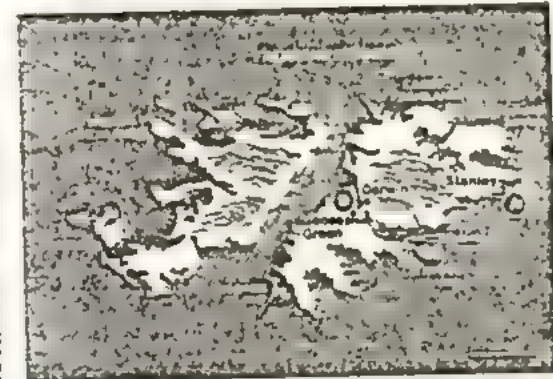
After the Falklands crisis began, British military spokesmen first built up the combat capacity of the General Belgrano. Two weeks ago, an admiral said she was "held together by baling wire." But today, the military spokesman claimed attention to her 15 six-inch guns, which had a range of more than 15 miles, and her main battery of 160-ton Sea Cat missiles.

In an effort to bind together what remained of bipartisan support for her strategy, Mrs. Thatcher gave a private



The New York Times, May 5, 1982

British destroyer was sunk somewhere inside the blockade zone. The main British task force is reported to be northeast of the Falklands (1 on map above), with one or three ships deployed to the west (2). Survivors of sunken Argentine cruiser were hunted south of the zone (3). British planes struck at airfields at Stanley (A on map below) and Goose Green (B).



briefing to David Steel, the Liberal party leader and Dr. David Owen, the parliamentary spokesman of the Social Democratic Party. Mr. Foot, the Labor leader, had declined an invitation to take part.

The Prime Minister also took for 90 minutes with her inner Cabinet and later with the full Cabinet for a general review.

British Sea Conditions on Tense

Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, who returned last night from the United States, said the British Government was "working actively on various ideas" for a diplomatic settlement, including suggestions put forward by Peru. But he told the House that he was not optimistic and that Britain would veto any United Nations call for a cease-fire that was not preceded by an Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands and an agreement by the Argentine junta that subsequent negotiations would include the question of sovereignty.

Discussing the attack on the General Belgrano, Mr. Nott seemed rattled by hostile questions. He said the task force commander, Rear Adm. John F. Woodward, could have ignored the threat represented by the cruiser "only at his own peril."

He said that the cruiser was "closing on a elements of the task force, which was only hours away," that the accompanying destroyers should have been able to pick up the Belgrano's crew members and that these escort ships would not have been attacked with British torpedoes had they done so.

Communications Problems Hinted

At another point, he seemed to suggest that the British Government had difficulty in exerting full control from 8,000 miles away. In some situations, he

said, "communications with submarines are not received instantly." It is known that boats of the *Conqueror* type must surface to transmit radio messages.

He and the Prime Minister won support from Tory backbenchers such as Michael Mates, who said that Britain, having dispatched the task force, "cannot now flinch from the consequences that occur, however serious."

But there were harsh words for the Government both in the Commons and in the Lords, where Lord Jenkins of Pymsey, a former Labor minister, accused Mrs. Thatcher of committing "mass murder on the high seas." He said the sinking of the General Belgrano "has caused a massive swing of world opinion toward the Argentine."

No Photos Being Sent
From the British Fleet

LONDON, May 4—For the last four days, British journalists traveling with the naval task force have been unable to provide photographs.

Although two photographers are with the fleet—one from the Press Association and one from The Daily Express—neither has been able to send pictures of the recent fighting.

British officials have blamed logistical problems but picture editors blame Government restrictions.

Television, which showed carefully selected footage in the early days, now has commentary accompanied by a photograph of the correspondent.

GIVE TO THE FRESH AIR FUND

Sheffield AT A GLANCE

History

The Sheffield, which was sunk yesterday by a missile fired by an Argentine Super Etandard fighter-bomber, was the first of 14 Sheffield-class destroyers built for the Royal Navy. One of its most modern weapons, she was commissioned on Feb. 18, 1975 at a cost of \$47.3 million.

Statistics

Fully loaded, the Sheffield displaced 4,100 tons and was 412 feet long overall with a 47-foot beam. She was armed with 22 Sea Cat surface-to-air missiles, a single 4.5-inch gun and two 20-millimeter anti-aircraft guns. The destroyer carried one Lynx Mark 2 helicopter armed with Sea

Skua air-to-surface torpedoes. The Sheffield was fitted with several types of radar and a sonar system.

Crew

The Sheffield was carrying a complement of 298 men when she was sunk, according to the British Defense Ministry.

Performance

The Sheffield-class destroyer was designed to provide air defense for a task force. Her maximum speed was 29 knots and she had a cruising range of 4,000 miles at 18 knots.



ing, blamed Argentina for the inability of diplomacy to make any headway. "As of this moment," he said, "the necessary flexibility has not developed in Buenos Aires." He added, "One could readily draw the conclusion that the recent tragic loss of lives, associated with the loss of their cruiser, has contributed to this continuing intransigence."

Mr. Haig acknowledged that because of the decision made last Friday by Mr. Reagan to take Britain's side in the dispute, the United States was no longer able to play an active mediation role at this time. But he said that Washington was working behind the scenes to aid the Peruvian Government, which has offered its own initiative, and United Nations Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

The American concern, he said, was not only that there were "human stakes involved" but also that prolongation of the conflict could damage efforts to unify the hemisphere, with increasing numbers of Latin countries supporting Argentina. Moreover, he said, the crisis provided opportunities for the Soviet

Britain's Margin of Superiority: One Strike Cuts the Assurance

By DREW MIDDLETON

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 4 — The margin of qualitative superiority with which Britain has managed to impose an air and sea blockade around the Falkland Islands has eroded under the impact of a single attack by sophisticated weapons.

News Analysis

Consequently, the Royal Navy's ability to maintain the blockade and through it force the withdrawal of Argentine troops on the islands seems much less assured than it did 48 hours ago.

One Exocet missile fired from a French-built Super Etendard fighter-bomber at the British destroyer Sheffield broke the string of air and sea successes tallied by the Royal Navy since

Saturday. The last and most sensational of these was the sinking on Sunday of the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano by Conqueror, a hunter-killer submarine.

Just as the sinking of the Belgrano demonstrated the pace of submarine development in the nuclear age — the Conqueror is nuclear powered — so the loss of the Sheffield, which caught fire after the missile struck and was abandoned by her surviving crew members, demonstrates the vulnerability of surface ships to advanced missiles.

The missile struck the Sheffield's command and control center, leaving a gaping hole in the vessel's side.

The Exocet is manufactured in France and is used by both the Argentine and British Navies. The missile flies 6 to 8 feet above the waves, or below ordinary radar range. Navy sources said the missile can be stopped only by concentrated gun fire.

Raid on Stanley Airfield

Exocets mounted on ships have a range of 12.5 miles. The air-launched version, used today, has a range of just under 19 miles.

The Exocet zero in on the mast of the target ship, usually just below the main part of the super structure. That is what happened to the Sheffield.

To some extent the loss of the Sheffield was balanced by a second successful raid by an R.A.F. Vulcan on the Stanley airfield. The Vulcan emerged unharmed and the airfield was said to be unusable even for light transport and counterinsurgency aircraft.

Both the Stanley and Goose Green airfields on East Falkland are now classed by the Ministry of Defense as unusable for any fixed-wing aircraft. This means that any air supply of the island's garrison is out of the question.

Shortly after the Vulcan attack, a Sea Harrier was shot down in a subsidiary attack on the airfield.

Under ordinary conditions the loss of a single aircraft and its pilot would not affect the tactical balance of a battle. But there are at the most 20 operational Harriers in the task force, and the destruction of even one could have a significant effect on Britain's ability to maintain air superiority around the fleet and simultaneously support a landing in the Falklands.

Previous Argentine Attempt

Before the successful attack on the Sheffield, the Argentines had made one unsuccessful attempt to pierce the blockade. Ships of the task force attacked what they believed to have been a hostile submarine, one of Argentina's two, on Saturday and apparently drove her off with depth charges.

The question arising from today's Argentine victories is whether the air force and navy have sufficient resources to reduce the effectiveness of the British blockade.

NATO analysts commented that the loss of the Sheffield, the lead ship of her class and regarded as one of the Navy's most modern vessels, inevitably would cut the effectiveness of the blockading forces. On the other hand, it may provoke the British command into a more serious attempt to invade and take the Falkland Islands.

For the last four days, the British have concentrated on targets of opportunity in the shape of ships or aircraft trying to break the blockade.

When the General Belgrano came under attack on Sunday the cruiser was reportedly accompanied by two warships, either destroyers or frigates.

The cruiser was a 44-year-old ship that had been overhauled frequently. According to British sources, she was no longer capable of her original top speed of 22 knots without undue strain on her engines and a probable increase in the noise levels audible to shadowing submarines.

Carrier Use Not Indicated

There have been no indications that antisubmarine helicopters were used by the Argentine squadron. Helicopters equipped with sonar devices are used by the United States and British navies to scout ahead of surface ships to locate and, if possible, destroy submarines.

NATO sources said two Mark 24 Tigerfish torpedoes were fired at the Argentine cruiser by the submarine Conqueror.

These weapons, developed by Marconi Defence and Space Systems and deployed about a decade ago. They have a range of up to 25 miles, but it is believed probable that in this case they were fired at a shorter range.

The torpedomen then guided the missiles toward their target by instructions transmitted down a wire to a computer in the Tigerfish warheads. The torpedoes approached the target at a speed of about 50 knots. When Tigerfish torpedoes near their targets, the computer takes over.

U.N. Plan Pushed as Casualties Rise

By BERNARD D. NOSSITER

Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 4 — The sinking of a British destroyer today gave added urgency to the peace proposals for the South Atlantic put forward by Secretary General Pérez de Cuéllar, who said he expected replies to his plan on Wednesday from Argentina and Britain.

In public, London has expressed considerable reserve toward the United Nations plan, but the loss of the Sheffield, officials here said, could make Britain more amenable to a quick solution. Before the attack, Francis Pym, the British Foreign Secretary, described the plan as vague, and British diplomats complained today that it was impractical.

The unofficial Argentine response, according to Latin American diplomats, has been more favorable. Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar's plan does not mention the thorny issue of sovereignty over the Falkland Islands. In the words of a key Latin diplomat, "This is intelligent."

Argentina has insisted throughout the crisis that its claim of sovereignty over the Falklands is not negotiable. But diplomats say they believe that any subject can be raised in private talks.

Outline of U.N. Plan Reported

The Secretary General, diplomats said, has proposed a cease-fire and the withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Falklands and the British fleet from the area. A small number of United Na-

General Belgrano AT A GLANCE

History

The General Belgrano, which was sunk Sunday by two torpedoes from the British submarine Conqueror, was launched 1939 at a Camden, N.J. shipyard as a cruiser of the Brooklyn class and commissioned as the United States Navy's Phoenix.

After being sold in 1951 to Juan Perón's Government in Argentina for \$7.5 million, she was first commissioned as the 17 de Octubre for the date in 1953 on which Perón emerged from a brief stay in prison in 1936, after the overthrow of Perón, the ship was renamed the General Belgrano, after an early 19th-century revolutionary.

Statistics

Fully equipped, the cruiser displaced 13,845 tons and was 508

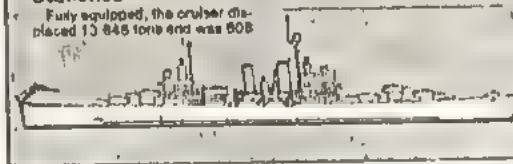
feet long with a 68-foot beam. She was armed with 10 Sea Cat surface-to-air missiles as well as 15 six-inch and eight five-inch guns, two point 40-millimeter guns and four 40-millimeter guns. She carried two helicopters.

Crew

The General Belgrano carried a complement of 1,042 men when she was sunk, according to the Argentine Government.

Performance

When new, she could make 32.8 knots, with a cruising range of 7,600 miles at 15 knots.



The Situation in the Falklands

FIGHTING

- Argentine aircraft attack a British destroyer with missiles. Casualties are reported as crew abandons sinking ship.
- Argentina report shooting down two Harrier jets. British confirm loss of one Harrier and pilot.
- Argentina reports rescuing 690 crewmen of torpedoed cruiser General Belgrano from icy waters of South Atlantic; more than 300 sailors still missing.
- British say their planes attack Falkland airfields for second time, reviving speculation of possible invasion of British troops. Argentines deny airfield was attacked.
- British report an attack on an Argentine submarine on Sunday with unknown results.

DIPLOMACY

- United Nations Security Council, at Britain's request, schedules consultations, or private talks, on the Falklands for Wednesday as Britain and Argentina consider Secretary General's proposal for mutual withdrawal from islands and temporary administration by United Nations officials.
- Administration officials say the mounting casualties on both sides underline need for an early and peaceful settlement of the tragic conflict in the South Atlantic.
- Britain's European allies still from initial support, urging both parties to stop fighting.
- South American governments express anger over United States economic and military sanctions against Argentina.

OTHER DEVELOPMENTS

- Sinking of Argentine cruiser provokes sharp debate in London over propriety of torpedoing a ship carrying 1,042 crewmen outside the 200-mile maritime exclusion zone.
- European military analysts say sinking of Argentine cruiser demonstrates pace of submarine development in nuclear age and inadequacy of older surface warships' tactics to deal with undersea challenge.



Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on her way to the House of Commons yesterday.

Associated Press International

tions officials would administer the islands while negotiations between Argentina and London were conducted by a United Nations official, probably Rubeen Ahmed of Pakistan, head of Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar's Falklands task force.

Britain would thus achieve its principal objective, clearing the islands of Argentine troops, who invaded on April 2.

Britain virtually ceded sovereignty two years ago when it offered to turn the islands over to Argentina in return for a long lease. That plan was vetoed by the 1,000 Falklanders, but the conflict may have altered their views and power.

The plans advanced by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. and President Fernando Belaúnde Terry of Peru hounded on the sovereignty issue. The Argentinians regarded the Belaúnde proposal as a Latin version of Mr. Haig's blueprint. Both attempted to put the question of sovereignty on the agenda for talks, and that made them unacceptable to Buenos Aires.

At the same time, the Security Council, at Ireland's request, scheduled consultations or private talks on the Falklands for Wednesday at 4 P.M. The Irish move has infuriated Britain because London believes that any meeting would be bitter and acrimonious and that third-world nations and the Soviet Union would use the occasion to castigate Britain for sinking the General Belgrano, the Argentine cruiser.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar had persuaded Ireland not to press for an immediate meeting but to wait

until replies came in to his peace plan. He was supported in this move by Ling Qing of China, the current Council president, and the United States. American diplomats took favorably on the Secretary General's initiative.

But the sinking of the British destroyer made it more difficult to draw out the Council proceedings. An open meeting on Thursday at the latest is now likely.

Shift in Mood at U.N.

The Irish Government acted in the wake of the attack on the Argentine cruiser. Dublin asked initially for an immediate Council meeting that would demand an end to hostilities and negotiations. From the British standpoint, this is a step back from the Council's resolution of April 2, which called on the Argentine troops to pull out. Ireland also said that sanctions imposed by the European Community against Argentina were no longer appropriate.

This shift in stance reflected a common mood at the United Nations today. Diplomats from many camps were dismayed over Britain's attack on the cruiser, which was apparently outside the British-imposed "total exclusion zone," and the heavy loss of life. Even NATO diplomats were critical. Until now, the sympathy of many here had been with Britain, since Argentina first used force to take the islands.

COUNTRY FUN FOR CHILDREN
GIVE TO THE FRESH AIR FUND

Rowland Evans
And Robert Novak

Argentina Isn't Following Script

Collapse of the U.S. Falklands strategy, built on the foundation of Argentina's presumed early retreat under British punishment, raises the specter of major U.S. reverses against communist expansion throughout Latin America. Instead of Argentina crying "uncle" under British military pounding, as Reagan administration officials hoped, the junta in Buenos Aires is growing more nationalistic, not less. So are large portions of the Americas south of the border, from Mexico to Tierra del Fuego.

That threatens long-term erosion of U.S. influence in Latin America. Once war broke out between Washington's closest ally, Britain, and a country for which President Reagan has shown special favor, Argentina, the United States counted on quick capitulation by the Argentines to limit damage throughout the hemisphere. Argument within the administration went on for weeks before Reagan came down on the British side April 30. One school insisted that as soon as an Argentinian ship or two was sunk by the British, the junta would either collapse or change course. If it collapsed, the successor regime would see the light and settle the dispute.

The counter-argument, which lost the day,

warned that air and naval blows to Argentina, far from softening the mood of nationalism, would intensify it. That would put a solution even further out of reach. The losing argument, if successful, would have required much tougher U.S. treatment of the British and Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who is Ronald Reagan's favorite. With overwhelming majorities in Congress pushing Reagan to back the British and the glaring illegality of the Argentine occupation, the counter-argument never had a chance. Now, however, some policymakers wish they could turn back the clock.

Argentina's demonstrated intent to ride out the British assault makes it more unlikely than ever that there will be a quick, negotiated settlement. On a broader level, U.S. officials were taken aback at the furious Latin American reaction to Reagan's statement of support for Britain.

The policy decision to give Britain U.S. economic and military support was backed within the administration by a strong majority in the belief that it would work. Now that Argentina is making it clearer every day there will be no retreat under Britain's superior military strength, condemnation of the United States by previously friendly Latin American leaders—which so far has been private—is likely to get noisy. The heart of current unpublicized criticism is that support of British military action will make much tougher U.S. attempts to mobilize Latin America against Castro-directed aggression.

That implies Soviet gains in the U.S. backyard, not by overt intervention but by exploiting desires throughout the hemisphere to take revenge on Washington for the Falklands humiliation.

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Fear of Precedent Isolates Argentina

By JORGE I. DOMINGUEZ

The meeting of the Organization of American States in Washington this week ended with the appearance of support for Argentina's position in the South Atlantic crisis, but in reality, it demonstrated that Argentina is still standing alone.

Seventeen of the 21 organization members endorsed resolutions supporting Argentina's claims of sovereignty over the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands and objecting to the European Economic Community's trade embargo. But the members also called for an immediate truce between Argentina and Great Britain, pending mediation under the auspices of the United Nations.

Argentina's request that the OAS convene was a serious miscalculation. The government of Gen. Leopoldo S. Galtieri had intended to demonstrate solidarity of support by other Latin American nations. Instead, it found itself with no allies of significance willing to pledge material support; the clear message was that the governments of this hemisphere want the dispute settled by peaceful means. If that message is heard in Buenos Aires, it will indicate that Latin American statesmanship, which has appeared nonexistent in the last few weeks, may achieve much by the indirect approach of supportive public rhetoric and non-supportive diplomatic messages.

The absence of involvement by the hemisphere's Latin American leaders has been obvious. A Peruvian now serves as secretary general of the United Nations, but neither he nor the government of Peru has done much to reduce the odds for war; indeed, Peru is supportive of the Argentine claim. The government of Mexico has offered its good offices for mediating difficulties between the United States and Cuba and Nicaragua. But its foreign minister did not even attend the meeting of the signatories of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance (Rio Pact) on the South Atlantic crisis. Venezuela has played a leading role in global negotiations between industrialized and developing countries, but in the current crisis its government has been a cheerleader for Argentina.

There is a great deal of ambiguity in how the Latin American governments see the crisis in light of their own interests. For some, particularly Nicaragua and Cuba, it presents opportunities. Over the years, Cuba has enjoyed considerable trade with the Argentine military government, which now faces a European trade embargo. The crisis enables Cuba to persuade the Argentine military of the worth of its friendship, possibly cooling off Argentine plans to fight Cuban influence in Central America. At the Rio Pact meeting, Nicaragua led the applause in support of the Argentine foreign minister's denunciation of Britain. Time will tell whether such gestures will make less likely Argentine support for the reported covert efforts to destabilize the Nicaraguan revolutionary government.

Venezuela and Guatemala also have important political reasons to support Argentina. Venezuela claims about half the territory of its neighbor Guyana, and Guatemala claims all of Belize, both on the grounds that the British empire had violated their sovereignty long ago to create English-speaking colonies. The Venezuelan and Guatemalan claims thus resemble the Argentine claims over the Falklands.

Understandably, most Latin American states believe that they need to show some solidarity with another Latin American country that is under severe strain. Argentina is linked to other Latin American na-

tions by ties of history and intense diplomatic relations, and it has extensive economic ties and shares borders with half of the continent (Brazil, Uruguay, Paraguay, Bolivia and Chile).

But this does not necessarily translate to military or economic support of Argentina's present crisis. The other governments need to consider the effect that the use of force in the South Atlantic might have on the settlement of other territorial disputes. From 1941 to 1981, no territorial dispute had led to war in South America, a record unmatched anywhere else in the world outside of North America. The threshold of war was first crossed in modern times in January, 1981, when Peru and Ecuador went to war for a week over the disputed Western Amazon Basin region. The threshold was crossed again when Argentina invaded the Falklands (Malvinas).

What will be next? Argentina has a se-

rious territorial dispute with Chile. Will the current crisis set a precedent for using force between Argentina and Chile? Will Venezuela, now an ardent supporter of Argentina, use force not only against Guyana (half of whose territory it claims) but also against Colombia, with which it has another serious territorial dispute? What effect would militarization of boundary disputes have on Brazil's borders with nine other states and a colony where in some areas the boundary lines are undemarcated?

This fear of a precedent for the generalization of war, then, is what seems to be behind Latin America's approach to Argentina's crisis. Statesmanship is there; it's just hidden. It will prove effective if Argentina believes that it will get no more than applause from its neighbors on the continent.

Jorge I. Dominguez is a professor of government at Harvard University.



Britons Venting Their Anger at Things Argentine

By STEVEN RATNER

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, April 28 — When a tape of a pre-Falklands Royal Variety Gala was recently broadcast on television, viewers were treated to the entire 30-minute spectacle — with one exception. Elaine Page's performance of "Don't Cry for Me Argentina," from the musical "Evita," was eliminated.



Argentine soldiers with newly arrived equipment, including antiaircraft guns, in Stanley, capital of the Falklands.

"As one of the songs had to be cut, we thought it would be silly for Elaine to sing Argentina in case it might be misconstrued," Tim Rice, the lyricist, told reporters.

As this country moves closer to a stepped-up military confrontation with Argentina, Britons have been venting — in conversation and in highly symbolic actions — their unhappiness about the South American nation's actions.

Going beyond import curbs, for example, Argentine food was banned from restaurants in Government buildings at Westminster and Argentine canned beef was removed from the shelves of 300 supermarkets. A liquor store in Chelsea poured its supply of Argentine wine down the drain.

Interment Hardly Considered

And as the possibility of more military action grows, consideration is being given to what would happen to Argentines in Britain. Few expect that Argentines would be interned, particularly because there is no law to permit it. But officials pointed out that powers do exist for specific individuals to be detained if they are suspected of sabotage or other offenses.

For Britons, the antagonism toward things Argentine represents part of the struggle to recapture the self-respect lost when the Falkland Islands were so easily accepted. David and Andrew Banks, for example, were fined the equivalent of \$30 each for throwing two cans of corned beef at the Argentine Embassy in Belgrave.

"We just had to do it," said Andrew Banks. "The invasion hurt my pride." Other Britons have been booing Argentine-born soccer players as they sat out on the field.

To some extent, Britons have been annoyed by the provocative actions of their Government, such as the breaking of diplomatic relations and the ban on Argentine trade. Last week three Argentine yachtsmen, arriving in England at the end of a round-the-world race, were quickly expelled by the Home Office.

World Cup Spot in Doubt

A few days earlier, Neil MacFarlane, the Sports Minister, urged British sports organizations to call off any matches planned to take place in Britain against Argentine teams. In addition, a Government commission is considering whether England should withdraw from the World Cup soccer tournament to be held in Spain this summer.

"In present circumstances, I would urge British sporting bodies not to complete any bilateral fixtures against their Argentine counterparts scheduled in U.K. 1982 to refrain from issuing further invitations," Mr. MacFarlane said in a statement to Parliament.

The evident tension has left Britain's fragmented Argentine population nervous and uncomfortable. Only a few thousand Argentines are thought to be living in Britain and many of those are married to Britons or otherwise part of the British community.

No incidents have been reported and most Argentines say they are being treated cordially by their British hosts. Nonetheless, nearly all of them are so

sensitive about their now-faded prominence that they refused to discuss their experiences.

Friends Keeping Their Distance

"Some Argentines here are leading their friends keeping their distance," said Hans Fain Binder, an Argentine journalist here. "The prejudice and that sort of thing that you see in British papers is also very disturbing."

Regardless of their political sympathies, Argentines here are unhappy about the continuing attacks in British newspapers of the Argentine Government, the Argentine economy, the administration of the Falklands and just about anything Argentine. "Forced out of my job," proclaimed the Daily Mail a few days ago in recounting the departure of a group of islanders.

"I feel isolated, particularly without an embassy and an ambassador," said one young Argentine student. "I don't hide my nationality but I don't go out as much."

A number of Argentines have had difficulties with their personal finances, as

a result of a Bank of England action to freeze Argentine deposits in Britain. The action was not intended to reach individuals but many were affected by the initial confusion. In addition, suspension of a no-visit agreement between Britain and Argentina has made travel far more difficult.

'People Look Twice'

"Argentine residents here are just trying to go about their business normally," said Alan Tabbush, chairman of the Anglo-Argentine Society. "People, of course, are sensitive. Now when a man says he's an Argentine, people look twice."

Some of the repercussions have seemed almost silly. The National Rifle Association here has decided to change the name of its 23-year-old "Argentine Shooting Match" to "The N.R.A. 200 meters match." And a newspaper suggested that Prince Charles dismiss his Argentine-born polo pony groom even though he has a British passport, is married to an Englishwoman and was blind before the crisis began.

Falklands Fight

Aim of British Attacks Is to Drive Argentina Back to Negotiations

But Tactic Leaves Next Move
Up to Buenos Aires Junta;
U.S. Takes Cautious Stand

Haig's Hopes for Settlement

The Falkland Islands crisis has entered a dangerous and bloody phase, but U.S. and British officials hope the warfare will last just long enough to drive Argentina back to the bargaining table in more of a mood to compromise.

The weekend's air and sea battles between Argentine forces occupying the British colony and the Royal Navy fleet sent to reclaim it are likely to be followed by an intensifying series of British attacks and Argentine counterattacks, U.S. officials believe. However, a full-scale British invasion aimed at ousting the occupiers is considered unlikely, for both military and diplomatic reasons.

Similarly, the limited economic sanctions against Argentina, imposed by the U.S. after

The accompanying story was based principally on reporting by Walter S. Mossberg and Gerald F. Seib in Washington, with additional material from Frederick Kempe in London and Everett G. Martin in Buenos Aires.

President Reagan abandoned neutrality and sided with Britain, may be gradually toughened in the weeks ahead. U.S. officials, however, concede that sanctions alone won't solve the crisis.

Instead, Britain and the U.S. aim to turn up the military and economic heat just enough to change attitudes in Buenos Aires before events on the battlefield spin out of control.

"Hand in Hand"

After meeting with Secretary of State Alexander Haig in Washington yesterday, British Foreign Secretary, Francis Pym, declared that Britain's military moves and its diplomacy "do in fact go hand in hand." Mr. Pym argued that "unless we are there building up the military pressures, together with all the other pressures, it is unlikely we are going to have successful negotiations."

Reports from Peru last night asserted that Argentina and Britain were nearing agreement on a new peace proposal that Peruvian officials helped develop. But the State Department issued a statement saying there hasn't been "any agreement on anything," although it acknowledged the U.S. had been in touch with Peru yesterday. British officials made a similar response to the Peruvian reports.

Mr. Pym said that British attacks so far have been purposely limited to securing its declared 200-mile "exclusion zone" around the islands, and he indicated they were primarily designed to force Argentina back to negotiations. He hinted that Britain wouldn't move again soon unless Argentina tries to move ships or planes through the zone.

The problem with this carefully crafted approach is that the next move is up to the Argentine junta, which has been nearly paralyzed by confusion, internal bickering and miscalculation, which may yet combine to bring on a coup.

Also, military events could take on a momentum of their own, especially if the likely onset of severe winter weather forces Britain to increase the fighting quickly before it loses the chance to do so.

Over the weekend, British bombers, fighters and ships staged repeated attacks on the occupied islands, and Britain claimed to have disabled the main airfield at Port Stanley and a second airstrip built by Argentina. Buenos Aires denied the claims, but Pentagon officials confirmed Britain's version and said the crippling of the airfields clears the way for small landings and raids on the island by British Royal Marines.

Last night, a British submarine torpedoed an Argentine cruiser off the Falkland Islands and "severely damaged" it, the British Defense Ministry said. It said that the cruiser was hit by a number of torpedoes and that the submarine wasn't damaged.

An Emergency Meeting

In London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on Sunday called an emergency meeting of her advisers at Chequers, and also requested an all-party conference on the latest developments. However, Mrs. Thatcher's request for the all-party session was turned down by the Labor Party leader, Michael Foot, as the data the government would have provided him would have been confidential, diminishing his freedom to attack government policies. Mr. Foot also believes the House of Commons is a better forum to discuss the weekend air attacks.

Although Mr. Foot backed the action to defeat "the aggressor," he added, "some political questions are unavoidable, the most obvious being: Was it necessary, or wise, or right, to give these orders from Downing Street before the foreign secretary met the secretary general of the UN in New York?" The meeting at the UN is planned for today.

America's decision to take sides is an important plus for Britain. The U.S. has promised noncombat military support that could help the Royal Navy carry out a long siege. American economic sanctions should help pressure Argentine leaders to soften their demand that they be guaranteed sovereignty over the islands at the outset of negotiations.

But Britain is likely to be cautious about escalating the military conflict for fear of losing the international support it has cultivated during the crisis. The British government has been trying to keep international

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Falklands Fight: Aim of Britain Is To Drive Argentina to Negotiations

Continued From First Page

opinion behind each of its measures, to avoid charges that it is acting in a colonialist manner.

The U.S. is also taking pains to avoid burning all bridges to Argentina, and the administration showed little enthusiasm in siding with Britain. State Department officials stress that Secretary Haig still hopes to help the two countries settle the islands' status without a full-scale war.

One big reason for the U.S. caution is a belief that the Soviet Union and Cuba may be able to cash in on the split between the U.S. and one of the most powerful countries in Latin America.

According to a high State Department official, Cuba's ambassador to Argentina showed up in Buenos Aires recently after a long absence with a "planeload of technicians" and an offer of generous military aid from his country and, by inference, the Soviets.

Congressional sources say this same top diplomat has privately told Republican lawmakers that American intelligence agents discovered a planeload of advanced Soviet-built electronic warfare gear and anti-submarine equipment bound for Argentina from Cuba. (The State Department formally denies the Cuba-plane story.)

"Yanks a Million!"

Despite the low-key U.S. approach, the end of American neutrality was hailed in London, where one newspaper headline read: "Yanks a Million!" Elsewhere in Europe, the U.S. move is expected to shore up respect for the U.S. as a loyal ally.

British Secretary Pym said the U.S. move created a new situation and asserted that Argentina now had to face not only Britain but also "the world's most powerful state." His comment came in London before he left for another trip to Washington, going this time as an ally instead of a disputant calling on a mediator.

However, in Latin America, the U.S. support for its oldest ally raised hackles, not only in Buenos Aires but elsewhere. Even Venezuela, a strong backer of President Reagan's Central American policies, condemned the U.S. move as a "stimulus to aggression."

In Buenos Aires, Argentines themselves seemed stunned when they awoke Saturday to the news that British planes had bombed the islands. They gathered around radios at news kiosks and in coffeehouses, listening to the government's first communique repeated again and again.

Down town at the statue of Gen. Jose de San Martin, Argentina's liberator from Spanish rule, loudspeakers blared a catchy new march called Las Malvinas Argentinas. Malvinas is the Argentine name for the islands. At one point, a battalion of Japanese Argentines arrived to march in support of the government.

After the fighting began, President Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri went on television, dressed in his general's uniform, and gave a militant statement, declaring the British "have used and are continuing to use fire against us, and we are responding and will continue to respond with fire. He charged the U.S. was "supporting the colonial pretensions of a European power in the Americas."

The economic sanctions announced by Mr. Haig fall far short of those imposed by Britain's fellow Common Market members, and State Department officials conceded that they constitute mainly a "political signal" to the Argentine junta that its intransigence is forcing the U.S. to move into the British camp.

All military exports to Argentina, which have been puny in recent years, were suspended, and new arms sales will be withheld. Guarantees on agricultural products were suspended by the Agriculture Department's Commodity Credit Corp., as were new credits and guarantees for Argentina from the U.S. Export-Import Bank.

These immediate steps probably affect less than a billion dollars of commerce and leave untouched most trade between the U.S. and Argentina. U.S. officials said, however, that further cuts could be imposed.

More important, in the short run, could be President Reagan's decision to respond favorably to British requests for military material, short of an American combat role.

Mr. Pym touched on such British requests in meetings yesterday with Mr. Haig and Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger. Such requests will be discussed in more detail on Wednesday when Mr. Weinberger meets in Brussels with British Defense Minister John Nott.

Pentagon analysts expect Britain to seek the use of giant U.S. C-5 cargo planes to move weapons and other gear from the British Isles to Ascension Island, Britain's Atlantic staging base for the Falklands campaign.

American cargo and tanker ships, U.S. submarine tenders and refueling ships may also be requested. In addition, Pentagon sources say, the U.S. would be willing to expand on the satellite reconnaissance shared with Britain and to give the British added stocks of U.S. torpedoes, missiles, radars and radars.

U.S. officials stressed that American combat forces aren't likely to enter the conflict unless American citizens were somehow placed in danger in Argentina. In that case, the President could order to the South Atlantic one or both of the two aircraft carriers participating in war games in the Caribbean.

The first major encounter of the war appeared to go decisively to Britain. On Saturday, an aging but heavy Vulcan bomber flying 1,400 miles from Ascension, attacked the Port Stanley airport, and carrier-based

Harrier jet fighter-bombers followed up. Also hit was a second airfield, at Goose Green, which was built by Argentine occupiers in recent weeks as a back-up base.

Britain contended that all its planes returned safely and said two Argentine jets and an Argentine bomber were downed in later fighting.

The Argentine Version

Argentina called the airfield attacks a failure and produced film purporting to show the Stanley airport operating normally after the British bombing. But journalists in Buenos Aires said the film was strikingly similar to stock footage of the airfield used earlier by Argentine television.

Argentina also claimed to have repelled several British landings on the island, downed British jets and helicopters, and seriously damaged several British ships abeam the Port Stanley area.

In London, Britain denied that any aircraft had been lost or seriously repelled. The Defense Ministry conceded that one vessel had slight damage. But a spokesman for the ministry burst out laughing when told that some Argentine sources were claiming a damaging air strike against the lead British ship, the aircraft carrier *Hermes*.

U.S. officials said American intelligence confirms the British version of events. They had long expected Britain's first strike at the islands to take the form of an attack on the airfields. Without them, Argentina's great air advantage is diminished, because fighters operating from the Argentine mainland have only limited maneuvering ability against British targets 400 miles offshore.

Pentagon analysts expected further British attacks, including air strikes, naval shelling and some raids by small landing parties. Any large landings must await the arrival of 1,000 of the British fleet's 3,000 troops, who are still in transit at sea, days away from the Falklands.

But Pentagon analysts continue to believe that, even with the full complement of British troops on hand, a full-scale frontal assault on Argentine positions might be unacceptably risky and bloody.

Further, they warn that Argentina, stung by British success, might strike the next blow in the war using its two modern German-built submarines to sink a British ship.

"Change of Heart?"

Diplomatically, the British clearly think the next step is Argentina's. Mr. Pym said yesterday that only a "change of heart" in Buenos Aires can get talks going again.

U.S. officials don't have any doubt that they also blame Argentina for the collapse of the American mediation effort. The Reagan administration decided to publicly side with Britain only after Argentina had spurned the latest U.S. peace plan late last week.

That plan closely parallels a UN resolution passed in the early days of the crisis, calling for an end to hostilities, withdrawal of troops of both countries and long-term negotiations to settle the issue of sovereignty.

But the U.S. plan had some additional provisions to help both Britain and Argentina save face. It called for an end to economic sanctions against Argentina, continuation of local administration and establishment of a joint British-Argentine-U.S. "interim authority" to enforce the agreement.

Political Uncertainties

Diplomats in Washington, however, warned that political uncertainties in both Buenos Aires and London make it difficult to

predict the outcome of renewed negotiations.

The three military officers who constitute Argentina's ruling junta are a bickering,

leadership, confused group, according to State Department officials familiar with Mr. Haig's failed mediation effort. They say the junta frequently agreed to concessions during meetings with Mr. Haig, only to withdraw the concessions at the last minute.

The junta is also a prime target for a coup, U.S. officials believe. Dissatisfaction

over Argentina's disastrous economic state was already running high before the April 2 seizure of the Falklands. Since then, Argentines have been runned at the lack of international support for the occupation and the apparent miscalculation by the leadership.

British Prime Minister Thatcher has had much broader support for her actions, but a

poll in yesterday's Sunday Times showed that 80% of Britons would be unwilling to lose any British lives to regain the Falklands. If pressure builds against subjecting the fleet to casualties and the cruelties of winter seas and storms, the strategy of applying gradual military pressure could be undermined at home.

Apoya el Gobierno Español a Argentina Contra Inglaterra

MADRID, Mayo 1 (EFE).— La oficina de información diplomática del Ministerio de Asuntos Exteriores español, ante las recientes noticias acerca del conflicto de las Malvinas, hizo público hoy el siguiente comunicado:

1.—El ataque de las fuerzas británicas al aeropuerto de las Malvinas, constituye una grave escalada del conflicto.

2.—El posible desencadenamiento de una

acción británica, aun más general y masiva en el archipiélago, implicaría una trágica pérdida de vidas humanas, y supondría una gravísima responsabilidad y un error histórico.

3.—El gobierno español, que desde el inicio del conflicto ha dejado clara su posición absolutamente contraria al uso de la fuerza, posición que ahora reitera, deplora por otra parte, que pese a sus esfuerzos en los foros internacionales, y en sus contactos bi-

laterales, no sea tenido en cuenta el problema colonial de fondo, origen del conflicto, en el que España ha apoyado siempre la posición tradicional de la Argentina, de conformidad con la doctrina de las Naciones Unidas.

4.—El gobierno español ha manifestado a los gobiernos argentino y británico, y a las Naciones Unidas, la necesidad de que se utilicen plenamente los mecanismos del Consejo de Seguridad, para evitar cualquier acción bélica.

Prevé la OTAN un Desembarco Británico en las Malvinas

BRUSELAS, Mayo 1 (EFE).— Después de haber bombardeado el aeropuerto de la capital de las islas Malvinas, los británicos "no tendrán más remedio" que intentar un desembarco en el Archi-

Califican el Ataque de Carácter Agresor

BUENOS AIRES, Mayo 1 (AFP).— La Junta Militar calificó oficialmente el "carácter agresor" del ataque británico sobre las islas Malvinas y formuló denuncias ante la OEA y las Naciones Unidas.

El comunicado número 29 indica que "el ataque a Puerto Argentino (Malvinas) constituye una flagrante violación de la Resolución 502 del Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas demostrando claramente el carácter agresor asumido por Gran Bretaña".

Agrega que "el ataque no ha afectado en absoluto la capacidad defensiva organizada por las fuerzas armadas en el territorio argentino recuperado".

plago en las próximas 48 horas, revelaron a "EFE" especialistas militares de la OTAN.

Fuentes solventes de la representación estadounidense ante la Alianza Atlántica se negaron a precisar si Gran Bretaña había informado a las autoridades de la OTAN de sus presuntas intenciones de intentar un desembarco, pero aseguraron que "in-

te el aparato político como el militar de la Alianza es informado puntualmente por Londres de la evolución de la situación".

"Para ningún estratega es un secreto —aseguró un experto militar de la Alianza— que los británicos acaban de traspasar el "punto de no retorno". La idea es neutralizar en lo posible la superioridad aérea argentina para po-

der intentar un desembarco de la infantería de marina".

Un portavoz autorizado de la Organización del Tratado del Atlántico Norte (OTAN) informó que "el problema de las islas Malvinas ocupará gran parte de los debates en la próxima reunión ministerial del Comité de Planes de Defensa de los próximos días 6 y 7 de este mes".

Denuncia Argentina el Ataque Ante las Naciones Unidas y la OEA

BUENOS AIRES, Mayo 1 (AFP).— Argentina denunció esta mañana ante las Naciones Unidas y la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) el ataque de la aviación británica esta madrugada a las Malvinas, se informó aquí oficialmente.

Instrucciones en tal sentido fueron comunicadas desde Buenos Aires a los embajadores Eduardo Roca (Naciones Unidas) y Raúl Quijano (OEA) mientras que se emitió igualmente una circular a todas las representaciones argentinas en el exte-

rior, añadió el portavoz oficial.

El canciller Néstor Costa Méndez está en viaje de regreso desde Estados Unidos, donde participó los últimos días en diversas reuniones que buscaron una tregua y salida negociada al conflicto.

En el ataque de esta madrugada a puerto argentino (ex Stanley), aviones de despegar vertical ingleses fueron rechazados según las comunicaciones oficiales, que no precisaron sin embargo, si tal acción desencadenó un combate sostenido.

Debate el Comité de Descolonización de la ONU la Crisis de las Malvinas

Por ROBERTUSVARZMAN

NACIONES UNIDAS, Mayo 1 (UPI).— El Comité de Descolonización de las Naciones Unidas sostuvo un breve pero encendido debate sobre la crisis de las Malvinas, con la Unión Soviética formulando una clara definición en favor de los intereses argentinos.

El Comité realizó su labor de organización para el año y finalmente se acordó que la cuestión de las Malvinas se discuta en sesión plenaria en agosto. El comité considera a las islas territorio colonial.

Al iniciarse la reunión, que era para organizar los trabajos, el presidente del Comité, Frank Abdullah, de Trinidad Tobago, reiteró su llamado de que ambos gobiernos "den todos los pasos para asegurarse que, a través de la negociación, se realice una transición pacífica con la aplicación total y veloz de la Declaración sobre Descolonización, con relación a ese territorio" (las Malvinas).

Reiteró que este problema "destaca la necesidad urgente de acelerar más el proceso de descolonización".

Las resoluciones del Comité básicamente apoyan los reclamos argentinos pero, con la salvedad de que hay que tener en consideración los deseos de los isleños.

Luego de discutirse aspectos generales de trabajo el delegado soviético, Valentín Berezovsky, dijo que "las potencias coloniales se han sentido molestas por las actividades del Comité".

Aseveró que "las potencias coloniales" en las Naciones Unidas han pretendido recientemente que el colonialismo ya no existe. Pero destacó que el problema de las islas Malvinas "es un problema de colonialismo".

Agregó que se trata de un territorio tomado por una "potencia

colonial" hace años. Las islas, sostuvo Berezovsky, son un territorio colonial y el Reino Unido "resiste empujadamente" su descolonización.

Esta definición es considerada importante por diplomáticos latinoamericanos. Señalaron que el tres de abril, cuando el Consejo de Seguridad trató el problema y aprobó una iniciativa británica, la Unión Soviética se abstuvo. Ahora, si la cuestión volviera a debatirse, se espera un papel activo de Moscú, dijeron los diplomáticos.

Stefan Kalina, de Checoslovaquia, dijo que Gran Bretaña está usando a las fuerzas para mantener una situación colonial.

Respalda el Congreso de Estados Unidos el Apoyo a Inglaterra

WASHINGTON, Mayo 1 (UPI).— La decisión de Estados Unidos de apoyar a Gran Bretaña en su conflicto con Argentina por las islas Malvinas tiene el respaldo de los congresistas norteamericanos, según reacciones iniciales tras el mensaje de secretario de Estado, Alexander Haig.

Estados Unidos, a través de Haig, acusó a la Argentina de haber causado el fracaso de sus esfuerzos para impedir una guerra con Gran Bretaña en el Atlántico sur y anunció la imposición de sanciones económicas contra el gobierno de Buenos Aires, así como apoyo material, pero no militar, a Londres.

"Respaldo completamente al presidente" Ronald Reagan, dijo el senador Charles Percy, republicano por Illinois, presidente del Comité de Relaciones Exteriores, quien sugirió que posiblemente transportes navales norteamericanos podrían estar en camino hacia el Atlántico sur.

Poema Sobre las Malvinas de José Pedroni en la Página 1-D

British Jets Raid Airfield; Aerial Battles Reported



British Vulcan took off from Ascension Island in mid-Atlantic and bombed airfield at Stanley in Falklands. Goose Green was also hit.

Bombs Damage Landing Strip, London Says

By KENNETH FREED,
Times Staff Writer

BUENOS AIRES—British warplanes staged daylong attacks against the Falkland Islands' major airfield Saturday, signaling that the war for the islands has begun in earnest, Argentine authorities announced.

Raids against the 4,000-foot-long paved landing strip at Stanley on East Falkland Island began before daybreak with a bombing run by a lone Vulcan bomber carrying 1,000-pound "blockbusters."

Afterward came periodic attacks by Sea Harrier jump-jets and helicopters, flying off two British aircraft carriers, the *Hermes* and the *Invincible*, reported to be stationed about 100 miles east of the Falklands. Argentina's military command said there were four attacks in all.

In London Saturday night, reports from the British task force said that in later combat action, British planes downed one Argentine Mirage jet fighter in a dogfight. These reports added that British ships shelled Argentine defense facilities on the islands.

Argentina Admits Damage

Argentine military communiques acknowledged damage to the Stanley airfield and claimed that four Sea Harriers were shot down, that one pilot was killed and that another was captured. The defense Ministry in London said there were no British casualties and that all aircraft returned safely.

Argentina's military command said that six Argentine soldiers were wounded and that one of its planes was damaged.

In London, the government said the British raids destroyed several Argentine aircraft on the ground and damaged the airfield, filling the strip with large craters.

The British raids came one day short of a full month since Argentina's April 2 takeover of the Falklands and seemed to end any immediate prospects for a diplomatic solution to the conflict.

'Will Meet War With War'

"We will meet war with war," a spokesman for Argentina's ruling junta said. The junta met throughout the day as battle reports came in.

President Leopoldo F. Galtieri was scheduled to release a message to the country during the night, but no advance time for it was fixed.

The attacks appeared to have two major goals. The first was to destroy any Argentine planes found on the ground at Stanley to try to offset the superiority in numbers of planes that Argentina has over the 20 Sea Harriers based on the *Hermes* and the *Invincible*.

Second, the British sought to damage the Stanley airfield—the

British See Air Raids as a 'Tightening of Screw'

Attacks to Hamper Resupply of Argentine Units
on Islands, Show Ability to Hit Mainland Bases

By WILLIAM TUOHY, Times Staff Writer

LONDON—Britain's air raids on Falkland Islands were "a further tightening of the screw" on Argentina in the dispute over the South Atlantic Islands, government sources said here Saturday.

Militarily, cratering the runway at the Stanley airport will hamper the resupply of the Argentine forces there and may prevent its use, at least for a time, as an emergency field by Argentine fighter planes challenging the British forces.

Psychologically, the raids may affect the morale of troops on the island and convince the Argentine ruling junta that London is determined to reassert British control, government sources said.

Mainland Within Range

Use of a long-range Vulcan bomber with its sizable bomb load may have another effect—to demonstrate that Britain could attack air bases on the Argentine mainland and make it more difficult for Argentine fighter planes to strike at Britain's forces.

The dramatic raids came a few hours before Foreign Secretary Francis Pym left for Washington to confer with Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. on the Falklands crisis.

The British Cabinet reportedly approved the attack before Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher left London to spend the weekend at Chequers, her country residence.

Contradicting Argentine accounts

of the raids, the British said no British planes or airmen were lost.

The major surprise of the attack Saturday was the use of a single British Vulcan bomber. The Vulcan was put into service 25 years ago, and has constituted part of Britain's nuclear force. At first it was widely reported that a number of Vulcans made the bombing run, but the Ministry of Defense later said only one was involved.

The Vulcans were to be phased out of the Royal Air Force inventory, but some were converted to deliver conventional weapons.

Sophisticated Electronics

After Argentina's seizure of the Falklands, the conversion was speeded up. The big delta-wing planes were adapted to carry up to 20 bombs of 1,000 pounds each, and crews were trained around the Hebrides Islands off Scotland, whose terrain resembles that of the Falklands.

Some of the Vulcans were moved to Ascension Island, about 3,500 miles northeast of the Falklands, and it was from there that the lone bomber took off on the Falklands raid, London sources said.

These sources said the Vulcan was refueled by Victor aerial tankers en route to the Falklands and again on the way back.

The Vulcans are equipped with sophisticated radar and other electronic guidance systems, defense

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Stanley's airfield during 1979 inaugural ceremonies, with runway bombed Saturday in the background. Associated Press

FALKLANDS: Jets Attack Airfields

Continued from First Page

only one in the islands capable of handling large aircraft — to cut off the air bridge Argentina has established to supply and reinforce its Falklands garrison without challenging a British sea blockade proclaimed April 10.

Both aims must be met, Western military experts say, for the British to effectively blockade the islands or invade them.

The British planes also hit a tiny dirt air strip at Goose Green, West of Stanley. Several such air strips, rarely more than 500 feet long, are used by some of the islands' 1,800 inhabitants for local air transport. Military sources here said that an Argentine prop-jet ground attack plane was destroyed on the ground at Goose Green.

Argentina met the British attack with anti-aircraft fire and said that six of its supersonic Mirage jet fighters attacked the British fleet, damaging a frigate near Stanley and chasing two others from the area.

The Mirage presumably flew from a mainland base, since officials earlier had said that no Mirages were near the Falklands when the British attacks began.

Besides its military responses, Argentina sent notes protesting the British action to the United Nations and the Organization of American States.

Although Saturday's action seems to have precluded any negotiated settlement for the moment, Argentina still publicly maintains its posture that a diplomatic solution can be found.

Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez spent Friday at the United Nations in New York, but most diplomatic and government sources here discount the possibility of the United Nations finding a quick solution.

Proposals Unacceptable

Costa Mendez stepped up his criticism of the United States for coming down on Britain's side, imposing sanctions against Argentina and promising materiel help to the British.

"The attitude of the United States is a violation of international law," he said, and "runs against the spirit of a resolution by Latin American countries recognizing Argentine sovereignty over the islands."

Before leaving New York to return to Buenos Aires, Costa Mendez denied that Argentina had rejected a last-minute proposal of the Reagan Administration for a settlement. But upon his arrival in Buenos Aires on Saturday, Costa Mendez said that "the proposals of the United States are unacceptable."

Argentina began taking steps Saturday to move the country to full war footing.

All civilian air traffic to the country's coastal cities was stopped. Several units of military reserves were mobilized, and radio and television stations were ordered not to transmit anything that could be used by British forces for navigational guidance.

There also was a report, denied by some officials, that an emergency tax may be imposed to finance the war. All officials agree, however, that some emergency measures will be necessary to avoid a sharp rise in domestic inflation, already at a three-digit annual rate.

Saturday's British attacks had been expected here, especially after the United States ended its peace-seeking effort and announced it would help the British.

On Friday, both sides put into effect air and sea blockades, accompanied by threats of each to fire at any encroaching plane or vessel of the other.

Western military experts (here) said it still seemed uncertain whether the British would soon try to invade the Falklands with ground forces or limit themselves to

a blockade aimed at starving out the Argentine garrison there.

One expert source said an invasion might be the next step, particularly if the Stanley air field is damaged enough to prevent its use for several days.

This expert recalled that a party of British commandos reportedly landed on the Falklands some days ago, and that Saturday's reported approach of British frigates near the islands could be a prelude to a landing.

"If they (the British) can keep the airfield closed and the Argentine fleet doesn't interfere, I wouldn't be surprised if there was an invasion very soon," the expert said.

A question that has intrigued military observers for weeks has been what tactic Argentina would follow with its fleet.

Smaller, older and less sophisticated than the British task force sent to recover the Falklands, the Argentine fleet has been kept close to its mainland bases to take advantage of cover available from shore-based aircraft.

But some observers now speculate that for political as well as military reasons, it may have to sail out to meet the British.

BRITISH: 'Tightening of the Screw'

Continued from First Page

analysts said, and may have used laser directed "smart bombs" against the Stanley airfield.

Flying at considerable height and with the advantage of darkness and surprise, the Vulcan would have been at minimum risk from Argentine anti aircraft batteries that are believed to be guarding the 4,000-foot runway at Stanley.

The British said the Vulcan attacked before dawn and that Sea Harriers from the carriers flew a second strike at first light. The Hermes and the Invincible are believed to be positioned about 100 miles east of the Falklands.

The Sea Harriers are reported to have taken photographs for purposes of damage assessment and also to have strafed or bombed parked aircraft and the supply dumps of fuel and ammunition in the Stanley area.

Besides striking Stanley airfield, which has the only paved runway in the Falklands, the British hit a dirt airstrip at Goose Green, a small community near Darwin at the head

Surrender? Not on Your Royal Family

From Reuters

LONDON—Reports from Argentina said that Rear Adm. John Woodward, the British task force commander, suggested Saturday to the commander of the Argentine troops on the Falklands that he surrender.

The reported answer: "You and your little prince come and get us," a reference to Prince Andrew, a helicopter crewman with the British task force and son of Queen Elizabeth II.

of Chosmal Sound in the center of East Falkland Island.

Many of the outlying Falkland communities have unimproved dirt or gravel strips, 500 to 600 yards long, suitable only for short-range, island-hopping planes.

But while these strips cannot be

used for any heavy aircraft, they serve as helicopter landing zones.

Argentina is thought to have stockpiled much of its supplies near the Stanley airfield, situated on a peninsula about 2 1/2 miles east of the town.

During the last four weeks, the Argentines have flown in and out of Stanley with Boeing 737s, Hercules C-130 transports and Argentine-made Pucaras, small, heavily armed attack planes used for anti-guerrilla action.

Since the British established a sea blockade around the Falklands on April 10, the Stanley airfield has been the entry way for the resupply of troops.

If the airfield is kept out of service by raids, the Argentines will have to challenge the British sea blockade if they wish to resupply their Falklands garrison, said to include up to 10,000 troops.

Defense specialists in London said that Saturday's British raids probably caused some casualties among the Argentine servicemen guarding

the airfield and supply depots near it.

John Check, a member of the Falkland Islands Council who left Stanley after the invasion and is now in Britain, said that no Falklanders lived near the airport and should not have been affected in the raids unless bombs or anti-aircraft fire went astray.

Many of the British Falkland Islanders are said to have taken re-

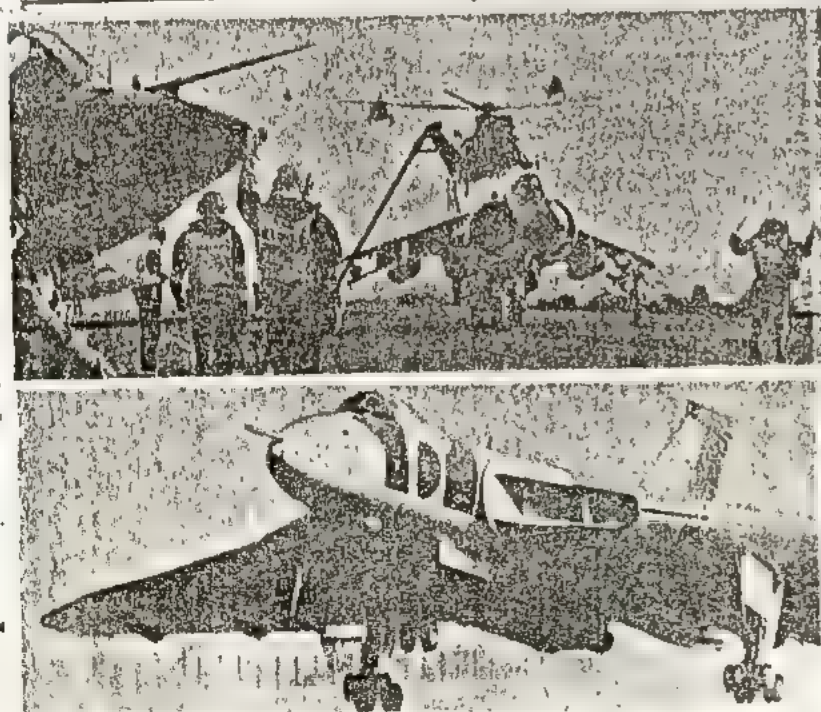
fuge on sheep ranches away from the Stanley area.

British reporters aboard the Hermes reported that all of the Sea Harriers returned safely, although they said one had a bullet hole. Each Sea Harrier carried three 1,000-pound bombs when it took off, the newsmen said.

Several British politicians late Saturday reacted favorably to the raid.

Labor Foreign Affairs spokesman Dennis Healey said that he approved of "erecting" the Stanley airfield as long as it did not involve serious casualties.

David Steel, head of the Liberal Party, and David Owen, foreign spokesman for the Social Democratic Party, both said that taking out the airfield "was a sensible" decision—and a "logical" one following up the sea and air blockade.



Associated Press

Sea Harrier jets, top, in recent exercises aboard carrier Hermes. Below, Vulcan bomber in takeoff position.

The Falklands crisis/Divided loyalties in Buenos Aires, political manoeuvres in London

How Argentina's Brits are bearing up

by Tony Emerson, special correspondent in Buenos Aires

For the 17,000 British subjects in Argentina and about 100,000 of British descent who speak English as a first language and lead a British way of life, the events of this month have been a nightmare. Unlike the leader writers of *La Prensa* or *The Times* who have a comfortably blinkered conviction that all the right is on their side, the British community in Argentina understand both points of view and fear that the damage done by enforcing either will greatly outweigh the benefits that might accrue to the enforcer.

This, of course, is a non-political attitude, but the British in Argentina have always eschewed politics and followed Dr Johnson's dictum that man is never more innocently employed than when making money. Indeed, the Anglican Cathedral in Buenos Aires is opposite the Stock Exchange.

For such an apolitical community the main desire is to be allowed to go about one's own business without disturbance. This desire was not respected by the guerrilla groups in the early 1970s who disrupted the peace university studies of the young Anglo-Argentines and kidnapped or blackmailed the wealthier parents to provide finance for their cause. So when the military reaction set under way in 1976 the British community were very relieved and quite prepared to overlook violations of human rights — especially as their rights had only been violated by the guerrillas.

In this they were at variance with the courageous stand taken by the journalists of the English language newspaper, the *Buenos Aires Herald* but they continued to take the *Herald* for the social news and the syndicated cartoon.

The British community also supported the theory, if not always the practice, of the open economy, as preached by Dr Jose Alfredo Martinez de Hoz, economy minister for the first five years of military rule. Indeed, one of the few points of agreement between the *Buenos Aires Herald* and the *Review of the River Plate*, the two community papers, was their support for "the Joe".

When, therefore, General Gallieri took office and appointed as his chief minister an orthodox monetarist, Dr Roberto Alemann, and a former representative of British companies, Dr Nicor Costa Mendes, relations



Catching a soldier's eye: a non-military encounter in downtown Buenos Aires.

between the Government and the British community could not have been better.

In one respect that relationship paid off, for on April 2 no sooner had the Argentine Government announced the invasion of the Falklands than it published a decree which specifically forbade the committing of injury or insult to the persons or property of British and English speaking residents of Argentina. Officers against the decree would be repressed with the full vigour of the law, and as human rights activists would testify, that vigour could be quite something.

In many cases police were sent to guard duty outside British houses or in British farms; but anti-British feeling was so negligible that farmers soon began to grumble about the extra mouths to feed in the shape of their uniformed guards.

For the Argentines did not feel that going into the islands was a particularly anti-British act, and all of them bent over backwards to apologise to Britain for any inconvenience that the invasion might have caused.

Nevertheless the psychological blow to the British community was profound: their country of origin and

their country of adoption were at odds. Not many tried to defend the Argentine action, though all understood the motives and feelings which had led up to it. In their quest for minimum disturbance they hoped that the British would come to a commercial arrangement that might even bring business their way.

When the British Government's reaction became known, most indignation was directed at the 1,800 Falklanders and the company which orchestrated their lobby, for it was felt that they had put into jeopardy 10 times their number of compatriots. If we can live happily under Argentine rule, ran the argument, why can't they?

The next shock came when the British Government asked all Her Majesty's subjects to leave Argentina. The British community as-

sumed this to be a political ploy until subsidiaries of firms based in Britain ordered their British subjects out. Many British refused to go. In the words of *The Review of the River Plate* they refused to believe that the two countries were governed by such power mad lunatics that they would go to war. Unpleasant telegrams crossed the Atlantic threatening disciplinary action or dismissal for those employees who did not obey.

By now the regular listeners to the BBC World Service were astonished to discover the country of their adoption being marked with the stigmas of Nazism, Fascism and dictatorship such descriptions were particularly bizarre to a community which had produced nearly two and a half thousand volunteers for Britain in the Second World War. They knew that the government

THE FOREIGN OFFICE ADVICE

The following message to Britons in Argentina was being broadcast from last night on the BBC's World Service:

Now that the British tank force is approaching the area of the Falkland Islands, a period of increasing tension and risk could lie ahead which should be taken into account by all British citizens remaining in Argentina. Those who have not so far acted upon earlier warnings are asked to consider again whether they should take an early opportunity of leaving the country by normal commercial means.

was not democratic, but they never felt that they lived under a dictatorship in fact they had had more liberties curtailed under elected governments than under military ones.

A further strain on relations with the mother country was the case of the Rt Rev Richard Curre, the Anglican Bishop. He had volunteered to fly to the Falklands with a deputation of British farmers in order to explain to the islanders the realities of living under Argentine rule. When the news reached Britain, the bishop received a telephone call from the office of the Archbishop of Canterbury removing the Falkland Islands from his jurisdiction and forbidding him to leave Argentina. As one member of the community grumbled over lunch at the English Club: "Who are the Fascists now?"

The instinctive shunning of politics had led the community to keep what they called a "low profile" but what the more forceful members preferred to label as ducking the issue. The common denominator was that all wished to avoid a shootout between Britain and Argentina, so a series of telegrams was sent to the British Government asking for a negotiated settlement without the use of force.

These telegrams caught the eye of the Argentine Navy, who have most to lose by British use of force, and a senior captain was detailed to help solve the problem of the community. Chief of these was the blacking of the *Buenos Aires Herald* by the *Peronist Newspaper* distributors' union on the grounds that it had not supported the invasion. Within a day of the captain taking charge the *Herald* was back.

But the case of the *Herald* outlines the British community's chief worry. While the present Western-oriented government remains in power they have nothing to fear from official sources.

But would that government have the will or resources to prevent profiteers from looting British residents' property in the name of patriotism if a shooting war breaks out in the South Atlantic?

And worse: what would happen if a xenophobic, populist regime were to replace the present Junta as a result of domestically unacceptable concessions or military setbacks?

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As the Falklands crisis has developed, how strong is the Government's support in Britain? With the general public it is strong and rising: a poll conducted by Market and Opinion Research International (MORI) and published in *The Economist* this week shows 64 per cent approval for the handling of the crisis. In Parliament the Government has managed to recover from an appalling start to mobilise an impressive degree of all party backing. This will remain as long as there seems to be a reasonable prospect of securing an acceptable settlement by negotiation and without resort to force. Beyond that it is more doubtful.

This is one of those instances where the support of other parties really does matter, both as an indication to the world of national unity and as a reassurance in public opinion at home. But in the final analysis it is always the cohesion of the governing party that is critical in British politics. For how long will this remain if such choices have to be made?

The unity of the Cabinet at the moment is impressive. This has for most of its life been such a fractious Cabinet that even though it has been working much better over about the last six months, there was always the possibility that the old divisions and tensions would become apparent again in times of stress. This has not happened.

Many of the decisions are being made by the small inner group dealing with the Falklands, but this is not recanted by other ministers who accept that crisis management cannot be conducted effectively by large numbers and that for security reasons tactical military assessments cannot be passed up and down Whirlwind. Within this inner group particular influence is being exercised by Mr Fynn and Mr Whiteley, who are reported to be working especially well together.

In the longer term this is bound to have its effect on the psychological balance within the Cabinet, provided that the crisis is ultimately resolved without a fiasco in the shorter term (they and the Prime Minister are between them well placed to command the consent of their colleagues).

But will they be able to command the consent of the Conservative backbenchers? For the moment the Con-

Can the Tories keep their united front?

Geoffrey Smith

servative ranks are steady: there is virtually universal approval of the Government's action in sending the task force, though there may well be a few silent reservations. But behind this united front at least three groups can be discerned. At one end of the spectrum there are those who must only approve of the task force being sent but are eager for it to be used to bring the crisis to a swift conclusion if the Argentines are not soon persuaded to accept satisfactory terms. The strength of this group was evident when Mr Lynn addressed the Conservative foreign affairs committee on Tuesday.

At the other end are those most if not all of whom approve of the task force being sent, but only so long as it is not used for any purpose more martial than bringing the Argentines to the negotiating table. This group would be firmly opposed to the use of force and would probably be prepared to settle for the best terms available. But in between there is a third group, probably the most numerous and certainly holding the balance, which is looking to the Government to extract reasonable terms from the Argentines by hard negotiating backed with the threat of force.

This group has a fairly clear idea of what it wants — the restoration of British sovereignty and a long term solution that would be endorsed by the islanders — but it does not seem to have decided what the next step should be if these terms are not available through negotiation. Would these MPs be prepared to use force or would they soften their terms?

There is a distinct softening in the Conservative ranks of the insistence upon the wishes of the islanders being paramount. The word "paramount" sticks in quite a few Conservative throats, as it does in Mr David Steel's. There are considerable anxieties over the danger of permitting such a small number of people in effect to dictate the terms of British foreign and defence policy.

If the islanders were to insist upon nothing less than a return to the status quo, would this not imply a commitment by Britain to enforce it not just now but for ever? Would this not

mean that a substantial force would have to be stationed permanently on the Falklands, which would distort Britain's general defence effort?

It is probable, though, that Conservative sentiment would insist on any agreement with the Argentine being specifically approved either by the Falklands Council or in a referendum, and there would be much unhappiness at any failure to restore British sovereignty in the islands, at least as a prelude to any long-term solution.

But would this pivotal group of Conservative backbenchers be prepared to use force if necessary to secure their ends? The answer is equivocal. They would be worried by the prospect of a bloody encounter in which many British lives were lost, or of a protracted engagement. They would be alarmed by the possible repercussions of any attack on the mainland. But they would be happy to join in the general rejoicing if British forces were to recapture the Falklands in a swift, clinical operation.

This attitude is not really much help for hard-pressed ministers who are mulling choices before them. Not for the first time in political history they have supporters who would welcome the success of an enterprise but would probably say that it should never have been attempted if it did not achieve its purpose quickly. In effect this simply raises the stakes for the Government and puts a still higher premium on military judgment if there is not a breakthrough in negotiations.

But while there is some equivocation in Conservative ranks, or rather a reluctance to consider the consequences if preferred solutions are not available without further risk, there is an readiness to accept a humiliating settlement. There would be serious trouble within the party if it seemed that the Government had simply surrendered to Argentina. A number of MPs might resign the Whip and, more important, there would be a strong sense of disillusionment throughout the centre of the party. So although the Government has made up much political ground over the past three weeks it is having to proceed along a path where its freedom of manoeuvre is very strictly limited.

Chile's distrust of its neighbour reawakened

Unlike in Buenos Aires, where temperatures run high and much hot air blows in from the Atlantic, autumn in Santiago is clear, dry and cool in this least Latin of the Latin-American countries, attitudes tend to conform with the climate. The Italianate posturing and bravado of the Argentines is anathema to most Chileans who, at the best of times, regard the antics of their trans-Andean neighbours with a concession bordering on contempt.

The political and cultural life of Chile is virtually paralysed under the heavy-handed and increasingly patriarchal dictatorship of General Augusto Pinochet, and now Argentina has precipitated a crisis which threatens Chile from one end to the other of its immensely long border.

In their hearts, whatever their other allegiances, Chileans feel that Argentines cannot be trusted. The more thoughtful of them see a country with a disastrous military history whose Army is motivated by hurt pride, and a country with an equally disastrous economic history whose Government is motivated by frustration and the need for a common cause.

When the Army and Government are one, under the leadership of an apparently Mussolini-like general, they have reason to fear the worst.

"This is, without doubt, the most serious event in our part of the world since the Second World War", Senor Claudio Orrego, a former candidate for the presidency of the Christian Democratic Party, said. "all politicians in Chile are 'former' now", he explained wryly.

Thatcher's "Churchillian" phrases are still ringing in his ears.

Still he hopes for a peaceful solution to the crisis. Whether Argentina wins or loses, he believes that an armed conflict can only be dangerous to Chile. "And it would be suicidal for our future to become

involved on Britain's side", he said. "Our relations with Argentina would never recover. And then, you have to consider the possibility of a secret pact between Argentina and Peru."

The words "secret pact" have an ominous ring in Chile, Peru, on Chile's northern border, has been potentially hostile neighbour since the war of 1879. They emerged accidentally that Peru and Argentina had signed a secret pact which brought Argentina automatically into the war on Peru's side. Many influential Chileans suspect that such a secret alliance may exist today, and view Peru's present vigorous alignment with Argentina with grave suspicion.

Because of this Chileans are quite aware of the political and economic imperatives which have driven President Galdier to his multi-adventure in the Falklands. Argentina's ultimate moral or geographical rights to the islands have ceased to be the issue. Most Chileans are concerned where General Galdier's adventurism may take him next.

Government (which is to say President Pinochet), remains inscrutable. The only military figure of consequence to have dissociated himself from the Pinochet junta is Señor Gustavo Leigh, the former air force commander

However he views a militant Argentina with great alarm. "It may be dangerous", he said, "but if it were my decision, I would help the British. I would allow them the use of our islands and channels, surreptitiously to shelter and refit their ships."

Argentina's biggest finance company has been put into liquidation, the Argentine Central Bank announced. The bank said that the missing deposits of the company, Rio Parana Compañia Financiera, would be guaranteed, as would any new deposits equivalent to \$112m (£64m) on December 31 last year, nearly twice as much as its nearest rival, Azuero.

The Central Bank intervened in Rio Parana's operations last Friday because of irregularities in the company's administration before Argentina's occupation of the Falkland Islands.

Central Bank sources said that, since the intervention was announced, there had been a run on Rio Parana's deposits. The bank would probably try to sell Rio Parana to another finance company, they added.

Two of Argentina's largest
finagle companies, Finsur
and Credibono, collapsed a
year ago.

Q The Russians said that the threat of a British invasion was growing, and accused Mrs Thatcher of disregarding world public opinion by counting on military force in the conflict (Michael Binyon writes from Moscow).

A Tass report from London said that concern was growing in Britain over the militaristic policy of the Thatcher Government, which it said was leading the country towards a military confrontation. The agency also reported from New York that a plan for military operations had been worked out, beginning with a troop landing on South Georgia and the subsequent conquest of the airstrip to take British Vulcan bombers.

cover of America's declared neutrality, attempts were being made to prepare a political cover for Britain and, similarly to public opinion, the aggression that Britain was now pursuing. The American press had, according to the agency, been encouraged to launch a "unbridled anti-Argentine campaign, and attempts were being made to put 'gross pressure' on Latin American countries."

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THE TIMES,
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FALKLANDS CRISIS

Invincible's pilots stand by to scramble

From John Withersow
on board HMS Invincible
April 23

Harrier squadrons on board the new carrier HMS Invincible and HMS Hermes have gone on full alert to intercept Argentine surveillance aircraft as the Royal Navy task force moves close to the Falkland Islands.

A Harrier is now prepared to take off within minutes of the first radar contact with an unidentified aircraft and rapidly intercept it at more than 100 miles from the fleet. This alert followed the interception by an armed Harrier from HMS Hermes of an Argentine Air Force Boeing 707 on Wednesday.

Within hours of the alert coming into operation, a fighter from the Invincible intercepted a second Boeing 707 carrying out long range surveillance at night and the fact that this was repeated within 18 hours indicates this form of reconnaissance will become increasingly frequent as the fleet comes within range of Argentine surveillance aircraft.

Lieutenant Brian Hugh, aged 32, who was the first pilot on the Invincible to be scrambled to meet a 707, stayed close to it for a few minutes before it headed off in a south-westerly direction. "I went alongside him with my lights flashing so he knew I was there," he said. "I then went underneath him and after about four minutes of this he roiled. I think he was looking for me so I popped up again beside him."

He added that the 707, of which the Argentine is said to have three, did not overfly the fleet.

Pilots on 24-hour alert now take it in turns to sit strapped in their cockpits on the flight decks waiting to be scrambled. "It is very quiet in there waiting for an hour or so", Lieutenant Commander Robin Kent, the senior pilot, said. "You just look at the sky."

The Harriers, armed with Sidewinder missiles and cannon, are also flying hundreds of miles ahead of the task force on reconnaissance while Sea King helicopters are searching the ocean around the fleet for potentially hostile submarines. As a result of this possible threat, the Invincible and other ships have brought themselves to a full readiness for combat.

The 19,500-ton carrier carrying 1,000 men, entered defence stations today and is likely to maintain them for some considerable time.

Not only does this mean the crew is ready for combat at any time through a complicated system of watches, but it means the ship becomes a considerably more austere unit prepared for any possibility.

A notice entitled "War orders" has appeared which details that all top secret documents are to be kept in weighted bags presumably for disposal if there is any likelihood of capture by the enemy. Other non-essential material is to be destroyed daily.

The notice outlines how prisoners of war should be treated and a programme on the closed-circuit television has the conditions of the Geneva convention.

The crew was told to deal with any prisoners in a humane way and carry out basic searches, interrogations and guarding. Although it adds that the Invincible is unsuitable for rescuing people from the sea, some ladders are to be made available for this possibility. In the event that any crew members are taken prisoner, it tells them to give only their name, rank, number and date of birth in response to any questions.



Sign of the times: A letter from the Falklands received in London franked with the Argentine name Malvinas.



Luce welcomes inquiry

By Julian Holland, Political Editor

Mr Richard Luce, who resigned from the Foreign Office with Lord Carrington and Mr Humphrey Atkins because of the Falklands invasion, said last night that he supported very strongly the Prime Minister's decision to hold a review of events leading up to the invasion.

Mr Luce, speaking at West Ruxington, in Sussex, said he thought it would be healthy for the nation to see whether any lessons could be learnt, and to set events of the last few weeks in perspective.

But to achieve this the review would need to cover all government departments concerned, examine how they discharged their responsibilities before the invasion, have access to all necessary papers, and be free to

examine the problem in the perspective of the last 15 or 20 years.

Saying that it was in the public interest to seek the truth, Mr Luce added that he made no criticism of Foreign Office officials who were dedicated to the national interest and their public duty.

The Prime Minister told MPs on April 5 that there should be a review of how government departments discharged their responsibilities before the invasion, and that the Government would consult members of other parties about the form it should take.

There is no pressure for a decision until the Falklands crisis is resolved, but opinion at Westminster seems to favour the task being given

to a small group of party councillors.

Recognition is growing among MPs that they as well as the public have much to learn about the vulnerability of distant possessions, and that Conservative and Labour governments must bear some blame for the failure to forestall the present danger.

If the public is to be reassured, several MPs believe, then an active politician who has held responsibility for the conduct of foreign policy in recent years can be eligible.

Mr Luce narrowing the field for recruitment further said the review must be carried out by "public figures with no vested interest, who would clearly be regarded as beyond reproach by Parliament and the public."

Britons told of risks in Argentina

By Our Foreign Staff

The British Government last night intensified its warnings to British citizens to leave Argentina if at all possible. A statement broadcast by the BBC World Service said that, now that the British naval task force was approaching the area of the Falkland Islands, a period of increasing tension and risk could be ahead. British citizens who had not acted upon earlier warnings should "consider again whether they should take an early opportunity of leaving the country by normal commercial means," the statement added. The new warning followed the receipt of death threats by British citizens in South America from what appeared to be an Argentine terrorist organisation. The Foreign Office said that it was taking seriously threats of reprisals against British families if war broke out between Britain and Argentina.

The threats, which were contained in letters sent by an organisation which called itself the Armed Group for the Defence of the Malvinas Islands, were received by British citizens in Montevideo, the capital of Uruguay.

Churches call for UN peace role

□ The British Council of Churches urged the Government not to enter into a war with Argentina before all possible ways of averting armed conflict had been explored in the United Nations.

It said the Security Council should be reconvened, with Britain proposing that non-military sanctions be imposed against Argentina if it refused to implement the United Nations resolution calling on it to withdraw from the Falklands. If this fails to get the Argentine troops out, a United Nations force should undertake to enforce the resolution, the council said.

It recognised that sovereignty over the Falklands rested with Britain, and deplored the invasion.

Leading article, page 13

Invasion attacked

Brazilian newspapers are backing Britain

From Patrick Knight, São Paulo, April 23

The serious Brazilian press has been almost unanimous in condemning the Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands and has devoted series of leading articles on the matter.

The O Estado de São Paulo, the leading São Paulo newspaper, said earlier this week: "politically, the invasion of the Falklands was a gesture of despair. It was as if, prompted by the decade of internal strife, the Gaitan regime considered that the challenge to the British Government would serve to recreate internal unity and confer on Argentina the role of leader of the South American nations, against the traditional symbol of imperialism and colonialism, which is the Union Jack."

Some opportunistic support from countries seeking pretexts for resolving their own frontier problems outside the law masked the first error of strategic evaluation. This was to imagine that Great Britain would not react, and also that the Soviet Union would not seek to take advantage of the conflict to try to establish itself in South America.

In the face of these errors, General Gaitan sought to correct them with another, by demanding that the organisation of American States should give collective support to Argentina under the terms of the reciprocal assistance agreement, hoping that Latin America would demonstrate its solidarity even if it was the Argentine Government which had been guilty of aggression, and Great Britain was only upholding rights trampled on by an act of force.

On the same day, the Rio de Janeiro newspaper Jornal da Manhã stated: "The invocation of the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Assistance by Argentina opens a

stage in this absurd conflict. The treaty was drawn up in a very different epoch from our own, and with very different aims. In that year of 1947, the world was divided into two clear blocks, and the treaty aimed to protect the democratic alliance which had won the war against Nazism."

"The treaty has now been invoked against a country of the Atlantic community, which until yesterday was sufficiently friendly with Argentina to provide it with a large part of the foreign credits which were needed. The justification is more difficult because in this case the aggressor country is Argentina. Under no circumstances does the treaty oblige any of its members to honour it with an infringement of the principle of peaceful solution of problems."

It is possible that Argentina has obtained some political support in meetings of foreign ministers, but this will not be translated into an endorsement of the use of force. What will the Argentine Government do then?

"The present Argentine leadership threw itself into the direction of a conflict to reverse this, would certainly signify the loss of power. In these circumstances candidates (leaders) usually permit to the bitter end, indifferent to the suffering which they impose on the nation," the Jornal da Manhã concluded.

□ Brasília: Senhor Jose Havelange, president of the International Football Federation (FIFA), said today he did not believe the Falkland dispute would harm the World Cup finals (Reuters reports). "I can't believe in any boycott," he told a local television reporter in Brasília. He said FIFA did not get involved in the political



Healey flies to talks at UN

Mr Denis Healey, Labour's foreign affairs spokesman and the strongest proponent of United Nations involvement in the Falklands crisis, met Señor Javier Pérez de Cuellar, the Secretary-General, yesterday (Zorina Pyatitsky writes from New York).

Before leaving Heathrow (above), Mr Healey said British and American ideas for a peaceful settlement were poles apart. The answer was immediate involvement of the United Nations.

Although the United Nations has a number of contingency plans for dealing with the crisis, officials were making clear that they would not embark on any mediation effort against the wishes of

Costa Méndez takes new proposals to US

From Christopher Thomas, Buenos Aires, April 23

Argentina has prepared fresh proposals to avert war in the South Atlantic. They will be made known to the British Government in the next few days but the indications are that they do not represent a substantial shift of ground.

Senior Minister Costa Méndez, the Foreign Minister, leaves for Washington tomorrow in readiness for Monday's debate by the Organisation of American States on the Falklands crisis. It was not clear tonight whether he would meet Mr Alexander Haig, the United States Secretary of State, but he did confirm that he would carry with him ideas for "a possible way out".

The proposals seem to amount to little more than a revised form of words without any substantial change of policy. One Argentine source said the junta was suggesting that Britain should agree to "decolonise" without formally conceding Argentine sovereignty while a long term solution was argued by the United Nations.

In Argentina's view such an idea would be tantamount to acknowledging its future ownership of the territory because of its confidence that the UN would concede sovereignty to Argentina.

Argentina's resolve to remain on the Falklands was reinforced today by President Leopoldo Galtieri, commander-in-chief of the army, who ordered his troops to "fight to the last drop of blood". He unexpectedly stayed overnight on the Falklands and flew out this morning to inspect military preparations along the Argentine coast.

Senior Costa Méndez said in an interview with BBC Newsnight today that the prospects of war were "half and half". Argentina was prepared to negotiate a peaceful settlement but was not prepared to give up sovereignty over the islands.

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Under Argentine rule the islanders would be granted rights over their religion, language, property and British way of life. Britain would be able to maintain refuelling and scientific stations on the islands.

Argentina was ready to pay compensation to islanders who wished to leave and would provide air tickets to Australia, New Zealand, Britain, or wherever they chose to settle. They would be offered land in the southern states of Argentina and given assistance to buy property.

The military junta has begun a diplomatic offensive to rally international support for its case and to prevent another defeat before the United Nations Security Council, which ordered Argentine troops to withdraw.

Argentina has started an emergency arms-buying campaign to prepare for possible war with Britain and has already received artillery ammunition from Israel, arms trade sources said today (Reuters reports).

Argentina had also approached Brazil to supply at short notice a wide range of military equipment including aircraft and armoured vehicles.

Our Defence Correspondent writes: Almost any one can buy almost anything in the arms trade, assuming that his credit is good. Argentina's main problem is likely to be financial.

Argentina has a flourishing arms industry of its own — and a shortage of equipment is not likely. The cost is likely to be more damaging.

Thatcher briefed by Navy chief

By Henry Stanhope
Defence Correspondent

The Prime Minister spent two hours on the Royal Navy's operational fleet headquarters yesterday, while speculation mounted over a military solution to the Falklands Islands crisis.

Mrs Thatcher was briefed by Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse, Commander-in-Chief Fleet, and his staff in their underground command post, they lunched with officers at the headquarters in Northwood, north-west London.

Admiral of the Fleet Sir Terence Lewin, Chief of Defence Staff, was also present — but not Mr John Nott, Secretary of State for Defence who remained in the Ministry of Defence.

Sources swiftly denied any suggestion that the task force was engaged in landing on South Georgia. Mrs Thatcher's visit did not reflect any heightened action, they said.

This also applied to the military manoeuvres at Senapridge, South Wales, involving more than 2,000 troops from 5th brigade, the Austerlitz-based command which is responsible for Army operations outside the Nato area.

The Defence Ministry spokesman denied, as far as he could, a report in yesterday's Times that senior task force commanders had queried with Government ministers the wisdom of a seaborne assault on the Falklands without guaranteed air superiority. "I do not believe representations of the kind suggested have been made," he said.

Intelligence officers have been examining tape recordings of shortwave broadcasts by a woman, which sound like a calculated Argentine attempt to damage the morale of the troops in the task force.

So far she has succeeded only in diverting the attention of the Ministry of Defence and the press, who have been dreaming up a seaborne assault on the Falklands. "Fanny" was one candidate from Fleet Street. The ministry has come up with Eva Eva, Buenos Aires Bulls and, perhaps best of all, Minnie How How.

US will continue peace talks if war breaks out

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 23

Mr Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, continued his talks with Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, and other senior Administration officials today with little apparent hope of finding a solution which would prevent Britain and Argentina going to war over the Falklands.

American sources said they expected the British task force to go into action over the next few days, probably with an assault on South Georgia. Mr Pym would only comment that the fleet was "on course and on time".

Despite the wide gap which still exists between the British and Argentine proposals for a solution of the dispute, Mr Pym has been considerably encouraged by the expressions of support he heard when he attended a meeting of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee last night.

Senator Charles Percy, the committee chairman, said: "There is no question in my mind as to where the sentiments of the American people are — they are solidly with the United Kingdom".

Another committee member Senator Clairborne Pell, added that if diplomacy failed "when push comes to shove, the American people will be with the British".

However, Administration officials have made it clear that the United States has no intention of abandoning its attempts to mediate between Britain and Argentina for the time being, even if British forces do go into action during the next few days.

Emphasising that Washington was determined to continue its present dialogue with London and Buenos Aires, a State Department official said: "The United States will not automatically abandon its honest broker role even if fighting starts".

Mr Pym has gone out of his way since his arrival in Washington yesterday to praise Mr Haig's energetic diplomacy aimed at preventing hostilities breaking out in the South Atlantic. At the same time, however, the British have left the Americans in no doubt that they expect the United States to come down on Britain's side if negotiations fail to persuade Argentina to adhere to

Security Council Resolution 502.

Senators who met Mr Pym last night said today they were pessimistic that a formula could be found that would satisfy both Britain and Argentina. However, American officials felt they had detected some flexibility in the British position.

Americans interpreted this flexibility as an attempt to show that if the talks failed, it would not be because of British intransigence.

Mr Pym's first appointment today was with Mr William Clark, the national security adviser. This was followed by a meeting with Mr Haig at the State Department. Mr Haig was then due to have lunch with Mr Pym and Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador.

A meeting with President Reagan was still considered a possibility, but nothing had been arranged by late morning. Mr Pym was scheduled to leave Washington for London tonight although British officials said his return could be delayed if there was a breakthrough.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE MONITOR

First the blade, then the ear, then the full grain in the ear.

The Monitor's view

Thursday, April 29, 1982

Pérez de Cuéllar's turn?

Has the time come to enlist United Nations Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar in a fast-ditch diplomatic effort to avert war over the Falklands?

To be sure, the UN has not always been effective in resolving cases of unilateral seizure of disputed territory. But, with the energetic Haig mission showing no results and the crisis nearing the point of armed conflict, the Security Council might play a useful role. Nothing could be lost — and perhaps much gained — by empowering Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar to step in and see what he can do.

While one sympathizes with the need to reassert British rule in the Falklands and to take account of the islanders' wishes, there are strong arguments for avoiding a major confrontation. Not only could there be heavy loss of life, but such a clash would make continuing diplomatic efforts even more difficult.

In light of the secretary general's Latin background (he is Peruvian), a mediating role would not have been possible before. The British might not have regarded him as an unbiased go-between. But the situation has

now markedly changed. The Organization of American States itself has urged an immediate truce in the British-Argentine dispute. It has also stated that the terms of UN Security Council Resolution 502 on the Falklands have to be carried out "in all its aspects." These terms call for Argentine withdrawal from the islands, cessation of hostilities, and a diplomatic settlement.

Argentina has thus been rebuffed by the very nations it thought would come to its aid. It did receive moral support: the OAS backed Argentina's historical claim to sovereignty over the islands and criticized the economic sanctions imposed on Argentina by the Common Market countries. But there was reluctance to take tough action. Colombia went so far as to call the Argentine takeover of the Falklands a "military occupation" and to describe the British response as "not entirely an act of outside aggression." With many other territorial disputes simmering in Latin America, many OAS members seemed to be sensitive to the pitfalls of supporting armed action to resolve them.

This should give the government of General Galtieri pause. While Argentina ostensibly stands to lose face if it backs down, a statesmanlike position would recognize the greater folly of pursuing a reckless course. To reverse such a course is no cause for shame but for honor. Argentina's position at the moment is unenviable. It has lost stature in the international community and lacks support even among its immediate neighbors. It is forcing the United States to tilt solidly behind Britain if full-scale hostilities break out. Many of its own citizens have misgivings about the invasion and question whether the islands are worth shedding blood for. There is the high toll of war if it comes — not only in lives and economic losses but in deepened national animosities and a fraying of relations with Europe.

From the standpoint of the Galtieri government, it might be politically difficult to agree to withdraw the Argentinian troops, avoid a clash, and then begin negotiations. But Argentina is likely to gain sovereignty over the islands sooner by this patient diplomatic route than by taking on the British task force, a move which, ironically, would only prolong the conflict and defer settlement of the issue by legal means.

Would Britain agree to a UN mediating effort? Margaret Thatcher has rejected an appeal by opposition Labour leader Michael Foot to go back to the United Nations, so this poses a political problem for her. But, inasmuch as Britain has the UN on its side, Mrs. Thatcher should be willing to take the political heat of acquiescing to a new diplomatic effort. There can be no pride in war if war can be avoided. Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar should be given a chance.



The Christian Science Monitor

Expresa su Apoyo a los Argentinos Candidato del PRI

MEXICO, Abril 27 (UPI) — El candidato presidencial Miguel de la Madrid, tras mostrarse solidario con la idea de "borrar todo vestigio de colonialismo en el continente americano", se situó junto a la Argentina en el conflicto de las Islas Malvinas.

En un discurso pronunciado en San Felipe del Progreso, a unos 100 kilómetros al oeste de México, de la Madrid, candidato del gobernante Partido Revolucionario Institucional, dijo que su opinión coincide con la de la mayoría de los mexicanos.

"Yo manifiesto mi solidaridad con la lucha del pueblo de Argentina para borrar todo vestigio del colonialismo en el continente americano", afirmó en una concentración política ante un grupo de campesinos.

Causó Pánico Económico el Ataque

Inversionistas Retiran sus Depósitos. Aumenta el Tráfico con Moneda Foránea

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 27 (UPI) — Los inversionistas, en gran número, retiraron sus depósitos bancarios mientras cundía el temor de que el enfrentamiento con Gran Bretaña por las Islas Malvinas agrave los males de la economía argentina.

Los bancos tuvieron gran asistencia desde que reanudaron sus actividades tras el fin de semana, y largas filas de inversionistas retiraron depósitos a plazo fijo.

Las operaciones en moneda extranjera en el mercado paralelo eran prácticamente nulas tras las detenciones practicadas por la policía días atrás.

"No existen razones para decretar un feriado bancario y cambiario," declaró el ministro de Economía, Roberto Alemann.

Funcionarios del ministerio de Hacienda seguían con atención el desarrollo de las actividades financieras para dictar posibles medidas en caso que se produzcan indicios de pánico que desequilibren el mercado.

Diversos analistas financieros estimaron que más del cinco por ciento de los depósitos del sistema bancario argentino fueron retirados por los inversionistas desde que las Islas Malvinas fueron ocupadas por fuerzas argentinas el 2 de

abril.

El conflicto con Gran Bretaña, que ya cobró dramatismo con la captura de las Islas Georgias del Sur por parte de fuerzas británicas, se desarrolla mientras Argentina tiene una deuda externa de 24.000 millones de dólares y soporta una inflación del 170 por ciento anual, de acuerdo con los índices de febrero de 1981 a febrero de este año.

Fuercas financieras calculan que las reservas de la Argentina oscilan entre los 4.500 y 5.000 millones de dólares, aunque sólo estarían disponibles unos mil millones.

Los presidentes de los seis bancos estatales más importantes se reunieron para analizar el tema de las tasas de intereses y estudiar una mayor flexibilidad para las pautas técnicas de las entidades financieras.

El gobierno argentino autorizó días atrás que los bancos disminuyesen el porcentaje mínimo de depósitos inactivos para garantizar su operación, del 18 al 17 por ciento.

El dólar norteamericano era cotizado ayer oficialmente a 11.800 pesos, igual que el viernes, pero continuaba prohibida la compra de moneda extranjera.

Continúa la Resistencia Argentina en las Georgias

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 28 (UPI) — Comandos argentinos resisten en las Islas Georgias del sur a las fuerzas británicas en acciones que provocaron varias bajas en ambos bandos, informaron fuentes militares.

De acuerdo con esas versiones, un centenar de efectivos argentinos continuaría en las remotas islas australes tomadas por Argentina el 3 de abril e invadidas nuevamente por los británicos el domingo.

La Junta Militar afirmó que las versiones difundidas en Londres sobre la rendición total de los efectivos en las islas australes son "absolutamente falsas".

El gobierno británico informó que el comandante

y más de un centenar de efectivos argentinos que defendían las Georgias se rindieron y que serían devueltos a Argentina.

El anuncio no precisó, sin embargo, si todos los efectivos argentinos se rindieron.

De acuerdo con voceros militares, unos cien infantes de marina al mando de un teniente resistían a las fuerzas británicas, apoyadas por cuatro buques y un helicóptero artillado, según informaciones de fuentes militares.

Según las fuentes, "deben haberse producido bajas entre los efectivos británicos", ya que, afirma, fue abatido un helicóptero Sea-Lynx.

Pide el Secretario General de la ONU que Cesen las Hostilidades en Forma Inmediata

NACIONES UNIDAS, Abril 27 (UPI) — El secretario general de las Naciones Unidas, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, ante el choque armado en las Islas Georgias del Sur, pidió a Gran Bretaña y a la Argentina que eviten una ampliación del conflicto "que amenaza a la paz mundial".

Fue la tercera declaración del secretario general sobre el conflicto en el Atlántico Sur.



Siempre Sonríe

Margaret Thatcher, primer ministro de la Gran Bretaña, sale sonriendo de la Cámara de los Comunes en Londres, tras lanzar una nueva amenaza a los argentinos. La funcionaria está resuelta a dirimir el conflicto mediante el uso de la fuerza, al menos la diplomacia iracunda (Telefoto UPI).

quien en todos los casos hizo su llamado a la paz.

La declaración escrita dijo que "en vista de los nuevos choques armados entre fuerzas argentinas y británicas, que tuvieron lugar en las Islas Georgias del Sur, es imperativo que se detenga la escalada".

Pérez de Cuéllar también solicitó de las partes que cumplan "con las previsiones de la resolución 502 del Consejo de Seguridad y que eviten cualquier acción que amplíe aún más el conflicto,

que amenaza tener graves consecuencias para la paz mundial".

La Argentina había presentado una nota al Consejo de Seguridad denunciando la acción británica contra las Georgias y también señaló que la misma amenazaba a la paz mundial.

La citada resolución 502 del Consejo fue aprobada el 3 de este mes con el auspicio británico y pidió el cese de hostilidades, el retiro de las tropas argentinas de las islas Malvinas y la búsqueda de una solución pacífica negociada.

Destruído un Submarino de la Flota Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 27 (UPI) — Helicópteros artillados británicos dañaron en las Georgias del Sur a un antiguo submarino argentino, el Santa Fe, pero con esa acción privaron a la Argentina de la cuarta parte de su flota de sumergibles.

El Santa Fe, que formó parte durante 25 años de la escuadra estadounidense con el nombre de Catfish, pertenecía al modelo Guppy y fue botado en 1945, hasta que fue sometido a trabajos de modernización entre 1946 y 1956.

El Santa Fe, que sufrió serias averías al ser atacado por los británicos en el Puerto de Grytviken, desplazaba 1870 toneladas en superficie y 2420 bajo el agua. Su eslora era de 93,7 metros; su manga de 5,5 y el puntal de 8,3

metros.

Desarrollaba 25 nudos de velocidad en la superficie y nueve nudos en estado de inmersión.

Su dotación se componía de 84 tripulantes y estaba armado con 10 torpedos.

El Santa Fe, que según informes periodísticos fue incendiado por los propios argentinos para evitar su caída en poder de la fuerza británica, era gemelo del Santiago del Estero, también integrante de la flota de este país.

Antes de la acción bélica librada en las Georgias, la Argentina poseía cuatro submarinos, los dos mencionados y otros dos del tipo 208, más modernos que los primeros.

En las Naciones Unidas se realizan consultas continuas para ver qué actitud puede adoptarse. Argentina no parece dispuesta, por el momento, a solicitar una reunión del Consejo de Seguridad y una fuente autorizada dijo que Buenos Aires quiere canalizar toda la actividad diplomática en la Organización de los Estados Americanos, donde se encuentra el canciller argentino, Nicanor Costa Méndez.

MANIFESTACION EN ARGENTINA

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 27 (UPI) — Una columna de unas dos mil personas, desprendida de la concentración antibritánica que se realizó ayer frente a la Casa Rosada, recorrió varias calles del centro de esta capital coreando estribillos contra Gran Bretaña y el gobierno militar argentino.

Paradojas del Conflicto

Poderío Militar Argentino se Logró Gracias a los Británicos y la OTAN

ESTOCOLMO, Abril 27 (UPI) — Expertos en armas de la OTAN, principalmente de Alemania occidental y Estados Unidos, han convertido a Argentina en la segunda potencia militar de Latinoamérica, dijo el Instituto Internacional de Investigaciones para la Paz (SIPI) de Estocolmo.

Pero en la disputa por las Malvinas, Gran Bretaña enfrenta una marina que este mismo país ha reequipado con radiales computarizadas, buques de

guerra, misiles y sistemas de radar, dijo el grupo independiente de investigaciones.

El portaaviones Veinticinco de Mayo fue modificado en astilleros británicos con modernos sistemas radiales de enlace con dos destructores de factura británica Tipo-42, dice SIPI. La nave aloja 15 cazas navales Skyhawk A-4Q de factura norteamericana, muchos de ellos entregados entre los años 1977-81.



Escollan Camarógrafo

Policías federales argentinos escollan a un camarógrafo estadounidense de la cadena ABC-TV, mientras las gentes lanzan sus protestas verbales por el tratamiento que en el exterior se le ha dado al caso Malvinas, malintencionadamente —según muchos— en contra de los intereses argentinos. Sin embargo, la conducta de las gentes es prudente y respetuosa (Telefoto UPI).

Amenaza la Primer Ministro Británica con Nuevo Ataque

LONDRES, Abril 27 (EFE) — La primera ministra británica, Margaret Thatcher, intensificó anoche la presión en la crisis de las islas Malvinas al amenazar con una nueva acción militar, destacan hoy los matutinos de esta capital.

La firme advertencia hecha a Argentina por parte de la Primera Ministra, en el sentido de que no dudará en utilizar la fuerza militar a menos que se logre un rápido progreso en el frente diplomático, dio pie en la capital británica a una serie de especulaciones en torno a un inminente ataque a las Malvinas.

Margaret Thatcher, en una entrevista televisada, dijo anoche que Gran Bretaña ledría que decidir pronto qué hacer con la fuerza naval que se encuentra próxima a las islas del Atlántico Sur. "Es obvio que no podemos seguir así indefinidamente", manifestó la Primera Ministra para indicar a continuación que "se está acabando el tiempo".

"The Times", citando fuentes bien informadas, afirma incluso que comandos de unidades especiales habían desembarcado ya en las Malvinas para buscar un lugar propicio al posterior desembarco de las fuerzas de choque británicas.

Según dicho periódico, el comandante de la Fuerza Naval británica, Sandy Woodward, tiene órdenes de no atacar la capital, Port Stanley, donde se concentran la mayor parte de los efectivos militares argentinos, pero está autorizado a desembarcar donde crea que tenga mayores probabilidades de éxito.

Cabe destacar que la información del "Times" fue rápidamente desmentida, en forma categórica, por el ministerio británico de Defensa.

Toda la prensa popular de hoy martes, abunda en alusiones a una inminente intervención británica en el archipiélago de las Malvinas.

Así, el "Sun" (Isla, "Próxima etapa, las Malvinas", mientras el "Daily Express" señala "Vayamos ahora a la verdadera batalla" y el "Daily Mail" insiste "Ahora otra fase para terminar el trabajo".

Para el "Guardian", liberal, las declaraciones de la señora Thatcher en el Parlamento hacen temer "La posibilidad de una acción militar en las Malvinas". Por último "The Daily Telegraph", conservador, recuerda que "Conforme pasa el tiempo, mayor es la amenaza sobre las Malvinas".



Manifestación Obrera

En la Plaza de Mayo, frente a la Casa Rosada, más de 50 mil trabajadores se reunieron para solidarizarse en la lucha que su patria libra por mantener su soberanía en las islas Malvinas. Fue una demostración contundente de fervor patrio, tal como lo muestra la gráfica (Telefoto UPI).

En Buenos Aires

Demostración Multitudinaria Obrera en Favor de Malvinas

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 27 (UPI) — Más de 50.000 trabajadores se concentraron frente a la Casa Rosada para reafirmar el apoyo a la soberanía argentina sobre las islas Malvinas, y al mismo tiempo realizaron una de las mayores manifestaciones políticas desde el derrocamiento de la presidenta Isabel Perón.

La concentración, convocada por la Confederación General de los Trabajadores (CGT) en la céntrica Plaza de Mayo, fue marcada por los estribillos y carteles en favor de la democratización, de una política tercermundista y del movimiento peronista.

"Inglecos atrás, el pueblo quiere pan", fue el estribillo entonado por trabajadores del comercio al ingresar a la embalsada Plaza de Mayo al amanecer.

"Malvinas sí, proceso no", rezaba un cartel sostenido por miembros de la Juventud Peronista, en

referencia al plan político del régimen militar encabezado por el general Leopoldo Galtieri.

"Inglecos fuera de las Malvinas, yanquis fuera de América Latina", fue el estribillo entonado por una columna de la CGT que llegó a la Plaza de Mayo, con grandes fotografías de Eva Perón.

La policía acompañaba a los manifestantes, que tras entonar dos o tres estribillos políticos, cantaban el himno nacional o repetían estruendosamente: "Argentina, Argentina".

Los manifestantes también decían a gritos "el que no valia es un inglés", por lo que los asistentes a la concentración daban pequeños saltos.

Un hombre de 50 años, que se identificó como José Mejía, de la ciudad colombiana de Medellín, desfilaba por la Plaza de Mayo con un cartel señalando "Colombia y Argentina, Unidas."

Destacan la Conducta de la Policía Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 27 (UPI) — Algunos de los miles de manifestantes que asistieron a una concentración antibrilánica en la Plaza de Mayo confundieron a un equipo de camarógrafos de la televisión estadounidense con ingleses, obligándolos a retirarse bajo custodia policial.

Algunos manifestantes enervados los insultaron y arrojaron monedas y otros objetos contra el automóvil policial que los sacó del lugar para llevarlos de vuelta a su hotel.

"La policía fue muy cortés", declaró un vocero de la ABC, cadena a la que pertenecen los periodistas Allen Fecenire y Tom Skarda, al comentar el incidente.

FRANCIA PIDE SOLUCION

PARIS, Abril 27 (UPI) — Francia dijo que las primeras operaciones militares en la crisis de las islas Malvinas entre Argentina y Gran Bretaña hacen extremadamente urgente la necesidad de buscar una solución pacífica a la disputa.

Un vocero del Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores, al comentar el desembarco británico en las islas Georgias del Sur, señaló que "los acontecimientos de las últimas horas confirman la necesidad y la urgencia de la negociación".

Las autoridades francesas dijeron que esperaban que los ministros de Relaciones Exteriores de la comunidad europea discutieran la crisis de las Malvinas fuera de su actual reunión en Luxemburgo.

Siguen las Negociaciones entre Haig y el Canciller Británico

Tratan de Promover en el Senado de EE.UU. un Apoyo a los Ingleses

Por JIM ANDERSON
WASHINGTON (UPI) — El diálogo entre el ministro de Relaciones Exteriores británico, Francis Pym, y el secretario de Estado Alexander Haig, se reanuda hoy en su segundo día, mientras croce en el Congreso norteamericano el respaldo hacia los ingleses en su disputa con Argentina por las islas Malvinas.

El senador Joseph Biden, Demócrata por Delaware, anunció que el lunes presentará un proyecto señalando que Estados Unidos se opone a la disputa de las Malvinas y respalda a los británicos.

El senador Paul Tsongas, demócrata por Massachusetts, dijo que se opone por ciento del Senado respaldará esa resolución.

Similares esperanzas de ayuda norteamericana en un conflicto con la Argentina fueron expresadas ayer en el Congreso por el ministro de las Fuerzas Armadas británicas, Peter Blaker, que había sido una reunión de grupos conservadores anglo-norteamericanos.

Teñido a su lado al secretario de Defensa de Estados Unidos, Caspar Weinberger, Blaker expresó confianza de obtener "un firme" respaldo norteamericano en caso de fracasar las gestiones diplomáticas para una pacífica solución de la disputa por las Malvinas.



Haig con el Canciller Inglés

El secretario de Estado, Alexander Haig, se reúne con el ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de Inglaterra, Francis Pym en el Departamento de Estado, en Washington, para intercambiar ideas con el pro-

posito de buscar una solución al conflicto entre Inglaterra y Argentina sobre el archipiélago de las Malvinas. (Telefoto UPI)

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Galtieri en las Malvinas

El presidente de la Argentina, general Leopoldo Galtieri, acompañado del capellán militar, Monsignor Benjamín, visitó las Malvinas, para imponer

cionar a las tropas destacadas en las islas, en su condición de Comandante en Jefe de las Fuerzas Armadas. (Telefoto UPI)

Noticias de Miami y Florida

Apoyan a la Argentina Durante las Celebraciones del Día Panamericano

Por F. FERIA

El Consejo de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos y la Cámara de Comercio Panamericana iniciaron las celebraciones del "Día Panamericano" con una ceremonia solemnísima el miércoles 14 de abril a las 10:30 de la mañana, en honor de los libertadores de América, generales Simón Bolívar y José de San Martín, y para apoyar a la República Argentina en su disputa con Inglaterra sobre la reivindicación de sus derechos sobre el archipiélago de las Malvinas.

Des ofrendas florales fueron depositadas ante el busto de José Martí, una por la Cámara de Comercio Panamericana y la otra, que fue colocada por el Honorable Cónsul de la República Argentina en Miami, señor Hugo Alvarez, presentaba los colores de la bandera de esa nación. Fue entonces interpretado el himno de los Estados Unidos por la banda de la Academia Miami Aerospace.

Expresó el señor Eurípides Riera, coordinador del Consejo de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos y presidente de la Cámara de Comercio Panamericana de la Florida, que este día Panamericano era grande por su significado, pero triste porque una potencia extracontinental trataba de intervenir en América nuevamente. "Las Malvinas son parte del territorio argentino", enfatizó y terminó su alocución exclamando: "Nosotros queremos la América para los americanos", y "somos los mejores aliados de Estados Unidos".

"La Argentina tiene razón en su disputa sobre las Malvinas, y ha dado un paso decisivo que nos envuelve a todos. Cuando replican las campañas, no se pregunta por qué replican, porque replican para todos, ya que la Argentina está dando el último paso para independizar una parte de su patrimonio e integrarla a nuestras tierras de América", puntualizó el cónsul de Argentina Hugo Alvarez, quien expresó su agradecimiento a los presentes y a todos los que se han solidarizado con la causa argen-



Ofrenda Floral

El Honorable Cónsul de la República Argentina en Miami, señor Hugo Alvarez, aparece en esta foto junto al señor Eurípides Riera, presidente de la Cámara de Comercio Panamericana de la Florida y coordinador del Consejo de Ciudadanos Latinoamericanos, después de depositar ofrendas florales a los pies del busto de José Martí, junto a la Amistad, durante los actos del Día Panamericano, en honor de los generales Simón Bolívar y José de San Martín y en apoyo de la acción Argentina en el archipiélago de las Malvinas. (Foto GORT).

na, de ejercer la plena soberanía sobre esas islas de 18,384 kilómetros cuadrados, que han estado sometidas al dominio colonial inglés durante 148 años como territorio bajo Mandato, en violación del Derecho Internacional y de los derechos históricos y jurídicos de la Argentina.

Exilados cubanos y ncaragüenses llevaban pancartas que defendían la acción del presidente

Leopoldo Galtieri y condenaban las amenazas inglesas. La concurrencia aplaudía el discurso del cónsul argentino, cuando al terminar éste, intervino nuevamente el señor Eurípides Riera para subrayar que "trescientos millones de hispanoparlantes desde Filipinas a España pasando por Hispanoamérica respaldan a la Argentina".

"Las repúblicas americanas están unidas contra el imperio británico", sostuvo el señor Hipólito Barreiro, que habló en nombre de la comunidad argentina de Miami. "Lo que se juega en las Malvinas es la supervivencia de América", dijo y terminó su alocución con la frase: ¡Bendita sea Hispanoamérica!

Para el general Evaristo Mariño, miembro de la Junta Asesora de Negocios del Senado de Estados Unidos, es hora de que "sea aplicada la doctrina Monroe". Se refirió al panamericanismo de José Martí, Simón Bolívar y José de San Martín, enjuició la situación entre Inglaterra y Argentina como un problema de América y reafirmó sus esperanzas de que el gobierno de Estados Unidos proceda con justicia.

"Los hispanoamericanos, sinceros y honestos en la más profunda de sus corazonas, están al lado de la Argentina. Hemos estado desolados en muchas ocasiones los hispanoamericanos, pero cuando un extraño nos trata de golpear, nos unimos todos. Sería intolerable que Inglaterra atacara a la Argentina, pero, si esto sucede, la América toda arderá", declaró momentos antes de terminar el acto el señor Eurípides Riera para nuestros lectores.

Acto de Apoyo a la Soberanía Argentina

El siguiente comunicado fue dado a la publicidad por el Movimiento Justicialista en los Estados Unidos, para pedir apoyo a la soberanía de las islas Malvinas por parte del gobierno de la Argentina:

El "Movimiento Justicialista en los Estados Unidos" que me honro en presidir, tiene el placer y honor de invitar a los actos que efectuaremos el próximo sábado (abril 24, 1982) a las 10:00 de la mañana, en el Bayfront Park (al costado de la Biblioteca) frente al monumento al General José de San Martín.

Dichos actos son en apoyo a la Soberanía Argentina sobre las islas Malvinas y el pueblo argentino necesita la ayuda y colaboración de todos los hermanos de la América nuestra, para demostrar la unidad necesaria frente a los enemigos colonialistas.

Firma el Ingeniero Juan Carlos

Argentina y la Flota de Inglaterra se Hallan en Estado de Alerta de Guerra

Por IRVING ALCARAZ

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 23 (UPI) — El presidente Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri proseguirá hoy su gira por la fuertemente pertrechada región austral de su país, mientras los mecanismos de

defensa argentinos estrechaban su vigilancia sobre la flota de guerra inglesa que se acerca amenazante hacia las islas Malvinas.

Galtieri, quien insistió ayer a las tropas que resguardan las islas a

defenderlas "hasta la última gota de sangre", permaneció en Río Gallegos, a 2.800 kilómetros de aquí, y hoy tiene proyectado dirigirse a Río Grande, en el extremo sur del país.

Ambas ciudades son importantes bases de apoyo logística de las tropas argentinas acantonadas en las islas, cuyo número se aproxima a los 10.000 efectivos, según fuentes militares.

Argentina ha concentrado sus esfuerzos defensivos en sus costas australes y las islas Malvinas ubicadas a 900 kilómetros de su territorio continental.

En cambio sólo tiene a unos 140 hombres, todos voluntarios, en las remotas islas Georginas del Sur, a 2.300 kilómetros de sus costas, presenta primer objetivo de un eventual desembarco logístico en el disputado archipiélago.

Según fuentes de inteligencia de Estados Unidos, citadas por la prensa local, una parte de la flota inglesa se ha separado del grupo y navega rumbo a las Georginas del Sur, donde podría llegar el sábado.

Fuentes militares argentinas señalaron que un ataque británico a las Georginas, pequeño grupo de islas desiertas castigadas por el viento y la nieve, puede ser factible, pero en condiciones sumamente adversas.

Los fuertes vientos son un serio obstáculo para los helicópteros y sus flotas constituyen un peligro para los barcos.

Las fuentes dijeron que la bahía que habitualmente sirve a los barcos para atracar en las islas, está

minada y protegida por artillería pesada.

Entretanto, la flota inglesa fue puesta anoche en estado de alerta de guerra las 24 horas del día, al acercarse a una zona dentro del alcance de los aviones de guerra

argentinos Mirage, Dagger, Skyhawk y Super Etendard, donde llegará a las 0300 GMT del sábado, según informes de prensa procedentes del buque insignia Hermes.

Un avión Boeing 707 de la Fuerza Aérea Argentina (FAP) voló

Argentina y la Flota de Inglaterra se Hallan en Estado de Alerta de Guerra

(Véase de la Pág. 1)

La Fuerza Aérea Argentina, que antes perteneció a la presidencia de la nación, se aproximó a la flota británica en dos ocasiones entre el miércoles y el jueves, siendo repelida por una caza inglesa.

La proximidad de la flota ha reactualizado los temores de un conflicto armado, pese a que continúan las negociaciones diplomáticas para una solución pacífica.

El canciller Menem Costa Méndez viajará mañana a Washington para exponer ante la reunión de Cancilleres de la Organización de Estados Americanos, los argumentos argentinos para la aplicación del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca.

Aunque Costa Méndez dijo que no tiene proyectado otro tipo de reuniones en Washington, se estima que podría encontrarse con el secretario de Estado norteamericano Alexander Haig, quien está mediando en el conflicto.

Haig se entrevistó ayer con el canciller británico Francis Pym durante cuatro horas, al cabo de las cuales Pym declaró que había algunos progresos en las conversaciones para una solución pacífica del diferendo.

El presidente Galtieri dijo también ayer en Río Gallegos que "mientras se siga dialogando y conversando, siempre hay posibi-

lidades de un arreglo" por la vía diplomática.

Por su parte el comandante de la Armada, almirante Jorge Isaac Anaya, dijo que "falla aún un largo camino por recorrer hasta que pueda darse por terminada esta etapa en la historia de nuestra soberanía".

"Las alternativas de este conflicto pueden llevarnos a la necesidad de combatir nuevamente en defensa del patrimonio recuperado y esas alternativas incluyen la de tener que afrontar solos esa defensa", dijo Anaya en una reunión con almirantes retirados.

Añadió que sin embargo "los riesgos son grandes en cuanto al resquebrajamiento del bloque occidental y, dentro de éste, del sistema interamericano".

OTROS DETALLES

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 23 (EFE) — La flota inglesa entra a partir de hoy viernes en la "zona de conflicto" y, por lo tanto, quedará también a tiro de la Fuerza Aérea argentina. De esta manera funciona ya el "alerta roja" en el grave conflicto que enfrenta a la Argentina con Gran Bretaña por las islas Malvinas.

Aunque el gobierno de Buenos Aires dispone todavía del recurso de lograr por medio de la intermediación de la OEA que se aplique el Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca para evitar la agresión de la flota británica, los mandos militares aquí han optado por prepararse para hacer frente a cualquier escaramusa bélica.

Apoya el Perú la Aplicación del TIAR

LIMA, Abril 23 (UPI) — El ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Javier Arias Stella, dijo ayer que el en el conflicto británico argentino, "se dan las condiciones que señala el Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca que significan poner en peligro la paz del continente". Perú "tendrá que hacer honor a su condición de signatario del Tratado".

La afirmación lo hizo Arias Stella en respuesta a una pregunta de si el Perú apoyaría la formación de una fuerza como la expedida el TIAR para el caso de una agresión extraterritorial.

"El Perú es signatario del TIAR y, negado el caso que se den las condiciones que señala el tratado que significan poner en peligro la paz del continente, indudablemente tendría que hacer honor a su condición de signatario del Tratado", enfatizó.

Hablando en una conferencia de prensa Arias Stella dijo, sin embargo, que "no vamos a agotar esfuerzo alguno para buscar que esta controversia se solucione pacíficamente. Esa es nuestra manera de ver el problema y es ahí donde creemos que está el interés de América, del Mundo, del Perú".

El canciller peruano viajará el sábado a Washington para asistir a la reunión del Órgano de Consulta de la Organización de Estados Americanos convocada a solicitud de la Argentina que invocó la necesidad de aplicar el TIAR en su confrontación con los británicos.

Arias Stella expresó su confianza en que las gestiones diplomáticas del Secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig, ante los gobiernos de Buenos Aires y Londres culminarán con éxito.

Somete Argentina a Prueba la Flota de Gran Bretaña

A BORDO DEL HMS HERMES, Abril 23 (UPI) — Bajo cubierta de la oscuridad, la Argentina sometió ayer por segundo día a pruebas desde el aire a la flota británica, que declaró alertas varias veces cuando sus sonares le indicaron la posible presencia de submarinos en el área.

"Hay muchos dedos sobre los gatillos con intención por disparar", dijo el subcomandante Ken Mackenzie, oficial de operaciones a bordo del buque insignia Hermes, portador de helicópteros y aviones.

Pero ninguna de las alertas submarinas correspondió a un submarino, agregó.

Sin embargo, por segundo día consecutivo la flota se apresuró a enviar a un jet Harrier de despegue vertical para "interceptar e identificar" a un avión militar argentino de reconocimiento que se acercó a la flota.

El Harrier, lanzado desde el invencible, ahuyentó al Boeing 767 argentino antes de que se acercara a 30 kilómetros, dijeron oficiales británicos.

No hubo información de que hubiesen ocurrido heridos.

El 767 llegó a la vecindad de los barcos británicos antes del alba de ayer, a diferencia de su intento de ayer de observar la flota durante el día.

Mackenzie dijo: "Cuando percibimos algo que podría ser un submarino debemos reaccionar primero y hacer un análisis luego".



El presidente de Argentina Leopoldo Galtieri deja la aeronave que lo llevó a Las Malvinas donde pasó revista a sus tropas. El primer mandatario al regresar a Buenos Aires se mostró satisfecho por la mistica y el patriotismo que muestran las fuerzas armadas de su país para defender la soberanía. (Telefoto UPI).



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Durante un Descanso

Soldados argentinos destinados para la vigilancia de Las Malvinas, descansan en su barracas. Mientras uno escribe a su hogar, los otros comen y algunos leen revistas. (Telefoto UPI).

Serían las Georgias del Sur el Primer Objetivo Militar de la Gran Bretaña

LONDRES, Abril 23 (UPI) — A pesar del silencio del gobierno, se acrecentaron hoy las versiones de que la flota británica en el Atlántico Sur se prepara a recuperar Georgias del Sur, una isla actualmente en poder de tropas argentinas, como primer paso hacia la recaptura de las islas Malvinas.

La expectativa de un inminente desembarco británico fue generada por las declaraciones hechas ayer en el parlamento por la primera ministra Margaret Thatcher y por una reciente encuesta de opinión donde se muestra un creciente apoyo a una solución militar del conflicto con Argentina.

Thatcher dijo ayer que la isla Georgia del Sur, ocupada por tropas argentinas tras la invasión a las islas Malvinas, era un caso aparte.

"Nuestro punto sobre ella es bastante diferente del de las Falklands", expresó Thatcher. "Es algo extremadamente importante para nosotros".

Entre tanto, una nueva encuesta

de opinión pública dada a conocer hoy por la revista The Economist mostró un incremento del respaldo a Thatcher y a una solución militar.

Un 66 por ciento de los entrevistados —contra un 60 por ciento de la semana anterior—, apoyaron la política de Thatcher destinada a obligar a un retiro de Argentina de las Malvinas y a renunciar a sus reclamaciones de soberanía en torno a una colonia controlada por los británicos durante 140 años.

Más de un 50 por ciento se mostraron de acuerdo en hundir buques argentinos de ser necesario y una cifra similar indicó que la soberanía británica sobre las Malvinas justifica la pérdida de vidas.

INHOSPITAS ISLAS

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 23 (UPI) — Las Georgias del Sur, que según algunas versiones serían el primer objetivo de un desembarco británico destinado a recuperar las Malvinas, son unas islas pequeñas e inhóspitas donde

campea el viento y la nieve, apenas habitadas por ratas.

Según fuentes de inteligencia de Estados Unidos, citadas por la prensa local, algunos buques de la marina de guerra británica que navegan rumbo al Atlántico sur, se han desviado hacia las Georgias con el propósito de infringir allí el primer golpe a las fuerzas de Argentina.

Las islas tienen un total de 2 320 kilómetros cuadrados y la principal es San Pedro.

Prepara la ONU Contingentes para Malvinas

NACIONES UNIDAS, Abril 23 (UPI) — La Organización de las Naciones Unidas tiene listos varios planes contingentes por si se requiere su acción en la crisis de las islas Malvinas, dijo un vocero del secretario general Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

Los planes incluyen, entre otras opciones el envío de una fuerza de paz y que la ONU asuma el gobierno de las islas temporalmente, dijeron fuentes informadas.

Pérez de Cuéllar recibió a Rafiquddin Ahmed, uno de sus asistentes especiales que ha estado preparando dichos planes contingentes.

Si los Ingleses Atacan las Georgias, Argentina Responderá con Bombardeos

Por ENRIQUE DURAND

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 24 (UPI) — Argentina responderá con bombardeos a la flota inglesa si las naves británicas que se encuentran a 88 kilómetros al norte de las Georgias del Sur atacan las islas, afirmó una fuente militar citada por una agencia noticiosa local.

La fuente, a la que la agencia Diarios y Noticias (DYN) no identificó, dijo que dos barcos de guerra ingleses están a 88 kilómetros al norte de

Grytviken, y que al parecer hay un tercero en camino a la zona.

Añadió que esa distancia los pone fuera del alcance de la artillería que resguarda las islas, principalmente emplazada en la antigua factoría ballenera Grytviken, ahora custodiada por unos 140 efectivos argentinos voluntarios, la mayoría infantes de Marina.

Diarios y Noticias atribuyó a su fuente haber señalado que el Gran Bretaña emprende acciones militares contra las Georgias del Sur, Ar-

gentina responderá con bombardeos a la flota inglesa.

"La sola presencia de barcos británicos de guerra en la zona es una concreta violación a las negociaciones diplomáticas y tentativas de arreglo pacífico del conflicto, que encabeza el secretario de Estado norteamericano", dijo por su parte la agencia oficial argentina "Telam".

Fuentes militares dijeron que no se han producido aún ac-



En Espera del Ataque Británico

Un grupo de soldados argentinos destacados en las islas Malvinas, que están bajo la amenaza de un ataque naval británico, se congregan para cambiar impresiones luego de ser relevados de sus roles de guardia en las islas en disputa. Las fuerzas argentinas en el archipiélago anclan en estos momentos a más de 10,000 hombres perfectamente pertrechados para hacer frente al ataque británico. (Telefoto UPI)

tares.

Por su parte, el presidente, Leopoldo Galtieri, regresó anoche a Buenos Aires desde las islas Malvinas y afirmó que el estado de las guarniciones apostadas en esos archipiélagos y en el sur del territorio continental argentino es "formidable".

Galtieri, que viajó a las Malvinas en su condición de comandante del ejército, dijo que su propósito fue "organizar la defensa frente a la amenaza de la flota inglesa".

Entretanto, la fuente militar dijo que "algunos de los buques se encuentran dentro del radio de acción de aviones o helicópteros, pero no a distancia de desembarco o al alcance de cañones".

Añadió que los buques británicos "también están al alcance de la aviación militar argentina".

La fuente confirmó informes procedentes de Londres de que la avanzada de la flota británica había encontrado mares tempestuosos en el área, azotada por una fuerte tormenta que dificultaría su desplazamiento o acciones militares.

La llegada de los buques al área de conflicto se produjo en momentos en que Galtieri inspeccionaba el cordón de bases del ejército en el sur de la Argentina en preparación para una eventual confrontación bélica con Gran Bretaña.

Galtieri dijo a su regreso que la Argentina espera "la solidaridad

(Pasa a la Pág. 15 Col. 1)

Si los Ingleses Atacan las Georgias, Argentina Responderá con Bombardeos

(Véase de la Pág. 1)

americana" en la reunión de cancilleres del hemisferio que se realizará el lunes en Washington.

Los cancilleres fueron convocados a pedido de la Argentina, para considerar la aplicación del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca contra Gran Bretaña. Los países de la región podrían adoptar sanciones económicas, políticas y militares contra Gran Bretaña.

Galtieri, durante una visita de cinco horas a las islas, exhortó a los 10,000 soldados estacionados en las Malvinas a defenderlas "hasta la última gota de sangre", inspeccionó las guarniciones de Río Gallegos, Río Grande y Comodoro Rivadavia.

Durante su escala en Río Grande, el Presidente dijo que el ánimo de las tropas en las Malvinas es "excelente" y que los soldados se mantienen en estado de alerta, listos para entrar en combate si hubiera un eventual desembarco británico.

Para tanto en Río Gallegos como en Río Grande, Galtieri subrayó que "el diálogo no está agotado", en referencia a la misión de paz del secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig, quien viajó dos veces a Buenos Aires y Londres en las tres últimas semanas en un intento hasta ahora infructuoso de impedir una guerra en el Atlántico sur entre sus dos aliados.

En tono conciliador, Galtieri expresó también que los argentinos "estamos decididos a que la bandera blanca y calote flamee en las islas Malvinas", pero también a "respetar los intereses de los ingleses, y también los de los malvinenses".

En Buenos Aires, el jefe de la armada y miembro de la Junta Militar, almirante Jorge Anaya, dijo que "tenemos el deseo de paz en los corazones y la pólvora caliente en los cañones. No cedaremos".

Anaya hizo la declaración al recibir el libro de bitácora del primer

colonizador de las Malvinas en 1784, Louis de Bougainville, que fue traído desde Francia por el conde François de Bougainville, descendiente directo del expedicionario.

Bougainville informó que vino invitado por el gobierno argentino y que el propósito de su viaje es "confirmar la legitimidad histórica de la soberanía del Rey de España sobre las islas Malvinas, antes de la independencia argentina".

Desde las tres bases visitadas por Galtieri se efectuó un puente aéreo de pertrechamiento y aprovisionamiento a las tropas estacionadas por la Argentina en las islas desde que éstas fueron ocupadas militarmente el 2 de abril.

A diferencia de la virtualmente inexpugnable presencia militar creada en las Malvinas por los argentinos, fuentes castrenses indicaron que la defensa del pequeño y aún más remoto archipiélago de las Georgias del Sur, distantes 2,300 kilómetros del continente, es precaria.

En medios militares se cree que las Georgias serían con mayor probabilidad el primer blanco de un ataque británico si fracasara las negociaciones inspiradas por Washington para impedir un conflicto.

Piden Salida Rápida de los Británicos en Argentina

LONDRES, Abril 24 (UPI) — La BBC instó ayer a los ciudadanos británicos que se encuentran en Argentina a que abandonen el país lo antes posible.

Fue el tercer aviso y, el más contundente, que ha hecho la BBC desde que Argentina invadió las islas Malvinas el 2 de abril, y se produjo poco después de que la flota británica fuera puesta en estado de alerta máximo.

El mensaje recomendó a los 17.000 residentes británicos en Argentina a usar transporte comercial para abandonar Argentina sin pérdida de tiempo.

"A aquellos que hasta el momento no han actuado después de las advertencias previas, se les requiere que vuelvan a considerar que deben aprovechar una temprana oportunidad para abandonar el país por medios comerciales normales".

La BBC dijo que el mensaje también se transmitirá hoy y el domingo.

Visita de M. Thatcher a una Base

LONDRES, Abril 24 (UPI) — La primera ministra Margaret Thatcher conferenció ayer con los máximos oficiales de la Armada, en tanto que la flota naval británica, ya próxima a las islas Malvinas, fue puesta en estado de alerta máximo, en medio de conjeturas de que es inminente un ataque británico contra el aislado grupo de las islas Georgias del Sur.

Las Georgias del Sur se encuentran a 2.000 kilómetros al este de la Argentina, y fueron ocupadas por marinos argentinos el 3 de abril, un día después de la invasión de las Malvinas.

Según la prensa británica, las aviones de avance se encuentran "muy cerca" de las Georgias, lo que ha sugerido que se prepara un ataque británico como paso previo a la recuperación de las Malvinas.

El gobierno, sin embargo, ha mantenido un estricto silencio al respecto.



Galtieri y sus Tropas

El presidente de Argentina, Leopoldo Galtieri, aparece durante su visita a las islas Malvinas, en una revista a sus tropas. El Primer Mandatario com-

veras con algunos soldados. Se dijo que el estado de las fuerzas destinadas a la isla es inmejorable. (Telefoto UPI)

Desata Argentina Campaña de Ablandamiento Sentimental

LONDRES, Abril 24 (UPI) — Argentina está transmitiendo el sonido del péndulo del gran reloj Big Ben y dando los resultados de los partidos de fútbol de los equipos británicos a la flota inglesa — que se acerca a las Malvinas — en un esfuerzo por hacerle sentir la nostalgia del hogar.

Los programas de propaganda están acompañados con canciones sobre la muerte y son transmitidos a la flota a través de onda corta, que fue escuchada en la parte oriental de Gran Bretaña.

La locutora argentina hablaba con una voz suave en un inglés perfecto, pero el kilare parecía corresponder a otra época.

OPINA EMBAJADOR

MONTEVIDEO, abril 24 (UPI) — El embajador argentino en este país, general Santiago Riveros, después de justificar plenamente la actitud de su gobierno de "recuperar" las islas Malvinas, calificó de "injusta, arbitraria y contraria al derecho internacional" la actitud de la Comunidad Económica Europea al boicotear las exportaciones argentinas.

En declaraciones al matutino La Mañana, abundó en argumentos históricos sobre el derecho soberano de su patria sobre el archipiélago sureño y los pacíficos retos que hiciera ante Gran Bretaña para que procediera a la devolución de "nuestro territorio".

En Perú

Declaran Boicot a Barcos Ingleses en Respuesta a Bloqueo

LIMA, Abril 24 (UPI) — Los trabajadores portuarios peruanos decretarán un boicot a los buques británicos en respuesta al bloqueo económico impuesto por la Comunidad Económica Europea, anunció el Secretario General de la Federación de Trabajadores Marítimos y Portuarios, Luis Negreiros.

Por su parte, un semanario que se edita en inglés, informó que la Embajada de Gran Bretaña estudia planes para evacuar del Perú a los aproximadamente 2.500 ciudadanos británicos ante un eventual conflicto armado entre la Argentina y Gran Bretaña por las Islas Malvinas.

El diario The Lima Times dijo que la embajada reactualizó planes de evacuación preparados el año pasado con motivo de las predicciones de un científico norteamericano de que un sismo destructor iba a ocurrir en la capital peruana.

El semanario afirmó que esos planes fueron estudiados la semana pasada por la embajada del Reino Unido "ante la creciente posibilidad de una guerra entre Gran Bretaña y la Argentina".

Mientras tanto, se realizará la marcha de Solidaridad Latinoamericana con la Argentina organizada por el Frente Malvinas Argentinas y que cuenta con el respaldo de unos 35 mil argentinos radicados en el país.

Negreiros, que además es diputado del Partido Aprista Peruano, de oposición, dijo a los periodistas que "el boicot contra los barcos británicos es en respuesta al bloqueo naval inglés y a las medidas económicas adoptadas por la Comunidad Económica Europea contra la Argentina por haber rescatado, en un acto de soberanía, las Islas Malvinas".

Expresó la solidaridad de los trabajadores "con la clase trabajadora argentina" y "condenó la prepotencia, la agresión y el aislado beligerante del gobierno inglés, que pretende perpetuar una situación de colonialismo en América".

Plantean Gobierno Interino de la ONU Como la Salida Más Viable a la Crisis en Malvinas

POR NORBERTO SVARZMAN

NACIONES UNIDAS, Abril 24 (UPI) — La crisis de las Malvinas dominó la atención en las Naciones Unidas, entidad que se dispone a adoptar un creciente papel en una eventual solución del conflicto.

El secretario general de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, Alejandro Orfila, dijo que es "optimista" y que cree que podrá lograrse una solución diplomática.

Orfila también estimó que "ya está en marcha la aplicación del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca".

El parlamentario británico Denis Healey, que es el principal vocero del Partido Laborista para política exterior, pro-

puso que la ONU asuma interinamente el gobierno de las Malvinas, mientras se negocia una solución definitiva.

Tanto Henley como Orfila visitaron al secretario general de la ONU, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar y la cuestión de las Malvinas fue el tema dominante, según dijeron fuentes diplomáticas responsables.

Pérez de Cuéllar había recibido, en una audiencia sin programar, al embajador británico Sir Anthony Parsons, y allí se discutió también el mismo problema. Incluso algunos medios bien informados conjeturaron sobre la posibilidad de que se hayan tratado los desacuerdos generales del gobierno interino que se pondría en marcha para las islas.

Orfila declaró que la entrevista, la pri-

mera entre los secretarios generales de la ONU y de la OEA "había sido programada con anticipación".

Indicó que el motivo de la visita "no es el problema de las Malvinas, pero es obvio que lo vamos a discutir; pasaremos revista a lo que se ha hecho, quizás la OEA ha hecho más que las Naciones Unidas".

Preguntado si iba a invitar a la ONU a que envíe un observador a la reunión del Órgano de Consulta de la OEA, que el lunes comenzará a considerar la aplicación del TIAR, a pedido argentino, dijo que siempre se hace y que se espera la presencia de un representante de la ONU.

Consultado Orfila si, a su juicio, podría lograrse una solución dijo que "soy muy optimista".

"Cree que con la colaboración de personas, países y entidades que están interesadas en el tema, se va a encontrar una solución que sea aceptable para las partes, que tenga en cuenta todos los puntos de vista y que evite lo que todo el mundo quiere evitar, el enfrentamiento armado".

Sostuvo que el TIAR comenzó a aplicarse desde el momento en que se citó al Órgano de Consulta "pero no tengo la menor idea de lo que pedirán los países o cual será el resultado, pero la reunión ya está convocada".

Indicó que la reunión del TIAR "es una de las gestiones que se están realizando en el frente diplomático, además de la muy valiosa emprendida por el secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig".

Guarda Silencio Brasil Sobre Posible Venta de Armas a los Argentinos

BRASILIA, abril 24 (UPI) — El gobierno brasileño reiteró su disposición de guardar silencio sobre posibles ventas de armas y aviones a la Argentina.

Ninguna fuente diplomática o militar confirmó o desmintió las versiones que indican que Argentina podrá comprar material bélico brasileño después del bloqueo impuesto por países europeos que apoyan a Gran Bretaña en el conflicto sobre las Malvinas.

"No es política del gobierno el comentar los eventuales pedidos o las informaciones relacionadas con armamentos", dijo un vocero gubernamental cuando el periódico *Jornal do Brasil* informó que existen conversaciones sobre compras de armas desde tiempo atrás.

El general Leopoldo Galtieri, antes de asumir la presidencia argentina, visitó a fines del año pasado fábricas brasileñas de aviones y armamentos, pero no se confirmó ninguna operación comercial desde entonces.

El presidente de la fábrica de blindados Engesa, José Whitaker, lamentó anoche que los militares argentinos hubiesen preferido tiempo atrás la compra de blindados en Francia y Alemania Occidental, los que no serían entregados ahora a causa del bloqueo comercial europeo, en lugar de los blindados brasileños que les fueron ofrecidos entonces, según comentó la prensa local.

"No tenemos por ahora material listo para su entrega, y ellos lo precisan con urgencia", cita el *Jornal do Brasil* a Whitaker.

Por expertos en armamentos dicen que Brasil puede entregar inmediatamente fusiles ametralladores, morteros de calibre 60 y 120 milímetros, ametralladoras pesadas para defensa antiaérea a baja altura así como granadas, minas y carros blindados de reconocimiento y anfíbios para transporte de tropas.

La industria bélica brasileña se desarrolló rápidamente después de que el anterior gobierno del general Ernesto Geisel rompió un acuerdo militar con Estados Unidos, hace seis años.



Retorna Galtieri

El presidente de Argentina, Leopoldo Galtieri, concede declaraciones al regresar a Buenos Aires tras una visita de dos días a las islas Malvinas. El Man-

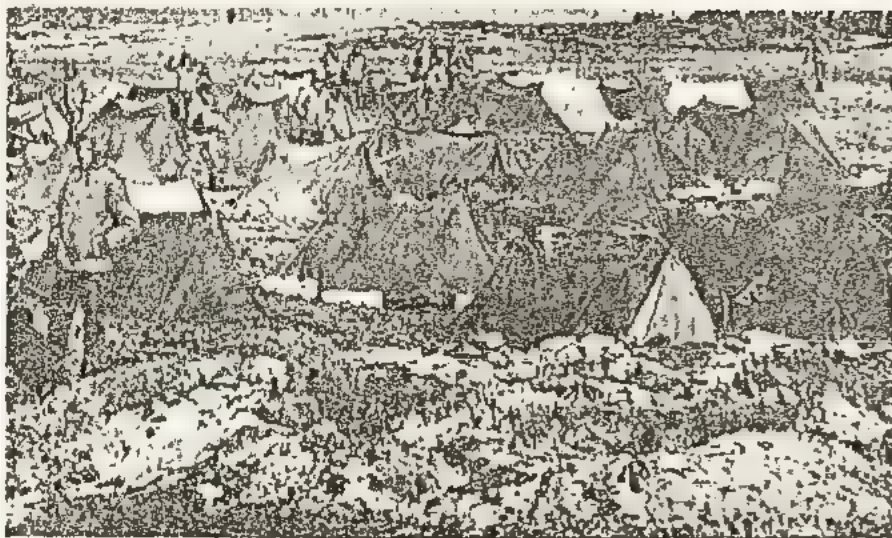
datarío aparece rodeado de su guardia personal. (Telefoto UPI)

Lograría la OEA Levantar el Bloqueo

Por ADOLFO G. MERINO

WASHINGTON, Abril 24 (UPI) — Los cancilleres americanos resolverían el próximo lunes que Gran Bretaña levante el bloqueo naval y aéreo alrededor de las disputadas islas Malvinas, según trascendió ayer en medios diplomáticos.

La disposición estaría contenida, caso de aprobarse, en un anteproyecto de resolución que fue considerado ayer por varios embajadores durante un almuerzo brindado por el embajador de Argentina ante la Organización de Estados Americanos, Raúl Quijano.



Unidad Avanzada

Un campamento de una unidad avanzada de las tropas argentinas en las islas Malvinas, donde más de 10,000 soldados esperan el ataque de las fuerzas na-

vales británicas que han decretado el bloqueo total de las islas a partir del viernes. (Telefoto UPI)

Frío y Mal Tiempo son los Enemigos de los Británicos

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (UPI) -- La larga travesía de la flota, el intenso frío, los persistentes vientos, y los continuos temporales que afectan en esta época del año a las islas Malvinas en el Atlántico Sur, se convierten en "enemigos" de los británicos y de una posible acción militar contra Argentina, según indicaron fuentes navales.

Las fuentes explicaron que la larga travesía de la flota conspira contra el buen funcionamiento de las naves y sus sofisticados equipos de tiro y navegación, los que se ven afectados generalmente por el agua salada y la consiguiente corrosión, los movimientos que en la estructura del

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Frío y Mal Tiempo son los Enemigos de los Británicos

(Viene de la Pág. 1)

barco provoca constantemente el mar.

Como ejemplo citaron que un mecanismo electrónico de tiro consta de varios centenares de pequeñas piezas que requieren de una constante revisión y mantenimiento para estar en condiciones de operar con el máximo de eficacia.

El persistente frío en la zona las Malvinas en esta época del año, con temperaturas que van desde

varios grados bajo cero hasta apenas cinco a diez grados sobre cero en los días soleados, mas la muy baja temperatura del agua, constituyen, según las fuentes, otro dato a tener en cuenta para la preparación de un contingente de tropas que debe combatir.

Indicaron también que los vientos, que en días normales son de más de 20 kilómetros por hora, y que "varias veces al mes" alcanzan los 100 kilómetros horarios, dificultan la navegación y provocan múltiples inconvenientes en los buques.

Ayer en las islas Malvinas llovía, según confirmaron fuentes navales, la temperatura era muy baja y se registraban fuertes vientos.

El servicio meteorológico, que depende de la Fuerza Aérea, no proporciona datos sobre las condiciones del tiempo en las Malvinas, sobre todo desde el momento en que el conflicto con Gran Bretaña amenazó en convertirse en un abierto enfrentamiento bélico.

En el continente las temperaturas oscilaron entre uno y cuatro

grados sobre cero en el día y alcanzaron cinco bajo cero en la noche. Para mañana estaba anunciado, además de las lluvias, un marcado descenso de las mareas termométricas.

Las fuentes navales dijeron que en esas difíciles condiciones climáticas la flota británica no podría permanecer mucho tiempo sin sufrir graves inconvenientes que afecten seriamente su capacidad de operaciones.

Por ello esperaban una acción inmediata para las próximas 24 ó 48 horas.

Finalmente explicaron que los problemas de abastecimiento y de apoyo logístico sufren serios inconvenientes debido a estas condiciones climáticas.

30 APR 82
LAS ANEZICUS

Consideran Inaceptables en Londres Puntos del Ultimo Plan de los EE.UU.

30 APR 82

Por JOSEPH W. GRIGG

LONDRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — La primera ministra británica, Margaret Thatcher, que aguarda

hoy un aumento de las críticas en el Parlamento por parte de una facción opositora a la guerra con Argentina, ordenó a la flota inglesa iniciar al amanecer del viernes

un bloqueo naval y aéreo a las Islas Malvinas.

Entre tanto, periódicos londinenses informaron que un esfuer-

zo suramericano de último momento por evitar un conflicto bélico tenía partes "totalmente inaceptables".

El periódico Guardian dijo hoy que fuentes del gobierno británico consideran la propuesta hecha por Estados Unidos "extremadamente deficiente en varios puntos e incapaz de satisfacer los mínimos requerimientos" de este país.

El Gabinete conservador en su totalidad no ha estudiado formalmente la propuesta, que al parecer no satisface a ninguno de los dos bandos en conflicto en torno a las reclamaciones de soberanía, pero al parecer, la "opción militar" para recuperar el archipiélago ha ganado terreno.

El bloqueo aéreo y naval de los británicos en torno a las Malvinas (Falklands para los ingleses), entrará en efecto a las 12 GMT del viernes y la BBC retransmitió hoy en la madrugada su advertencia a los residentes británicos en Argentina que abandonen ese país, mientras iniciaba la propagación de boletines noticiosos de "última hora".

El discurso que pronunciará Thatcher ante el Parlamento en el día de hoy y el cuarto debate en torno a la crisis de las Malvinas, fue precedido a comienzos de esta semana por acaloradas críticas

(Pasa a la Pág. 19 Col. 4)

Consideran Inaceptables en Londres Puntos del Ultimo Plan de los EE.UU.

(Viene de la Pág. 1)

de la oposición laborista.

El líder laborista, Michael Foot, acusó a Thatcher de rehusarse a buscar la mediación de la ONU a fin de evitar un enfrentamiento bélico con Argentina.

Entre tanto, y a pesar de una orden oficial de censurar los movimientos de la flota británica, un periodista de la BBC a bordo del buque insignia Hermes, dijo que la fuerza de operaciones se encuentra ahora frente a las Malvinas, luego de una travesía de 12.800 kilómetros a través del Atlántico Sur.

Se cree que la flota posee el poderío aéreo y naval suficiente para cumplir con la amenaza de bloqueo.

Sin embargo, los periodistas de la BBC describieron las condiciones meteorológicas como "so-



Posición Defensiva

Una pieza antiaérea de grueso calibre es colocada en una posición defensiva de la zona de Comodoro Rivadavia, en el sur de la Argentina. La zona es defendida por el quinto cuerpo del ejército considerado una de las mejores unidades de las fuerzas armadas de Argentina. (Telefoto UPI)

Tensa Espera por Gestiones de Paz

Por IRVING ALCARAZ

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — Con sus fuerzas listas para apretar el gatillo, Argentina y Gran Bretaña aguardan hoy el resultado de gestiones de paz de último minuto que se realizan en distintos frentes, en procura de evitar que el litigio por las islas Malvinas se convierta en una guerra en gran escala.

Las Naciones Unidas y la Organización de Estados Americanos están tomando una intervención más activa en la búsqueda de soluciones pacíficas y el propio secretario de Estado portamericano, Alexander Haig, cuya mediación tuvo hasta hoy resultados virtualmente nulos, está intentando sacar las negociaciones de su actual punto muerto, con otro viaje a Buenos Aires, para discutir una nueva propuesta.

El viaje, inicialmente desairado por las autoridades argentinas, pareció entrar en el camino de su materialización, al declarar en Washington el canceller, Nicanor Costa Méndez, tras una entrevista con Haig, que éste siempre "es bienvenido" a su país.

La nueva propuesta de Haig contendría entre otros los siguientes puntos, según la agencia local informativa Noticias Argentinas:

- Una administración civil tripartita entre Argentina, Gran Bretaña y Estados Unidos, lo que determinaría el alejamiento del actual gobernador argentino, que es militar.

- La iniciativa no contiene una fecha determinada para la transferencia de la soberanía a la Argentina.

- No se garantiza el reconocimiento británico de la soberanía argentina en las islas de una manera inmediata, aunque esto se contemplaría en un plazo no mayor a los cinco años.

- Se fijan fechas y establecen directivas para el retiro de las tropas argentinas acantonadas en las islas, como así también el alejamiento de la flota británica.

- Este retiro de tropas y el alejamiento de la flota serían

(Para a la Pág. 19 Col. 2)

Tensa Espera por Gestiones de Paz

(Viene de la Pág. 1)

graduales, hasta lograr la desmilitarización de la zona.

Entretanto, la flota de guerra británica se apresta a poner en ejecución el bloqueo naval y aéreo a las islas en disputa a partir de las 8:00 de la mañana de mañana viernes, en un radio de 320 kilómetros a su alrededor.

Cualquier barco o avión que ingrese en la zona será abatido, pero las autoridades argentinas han dicho que responderán eventuales ataques británicos con la fuerza.

Todos los periodistas extranjeros deben salir de la zona sur argentina, convertida en Teatro de Operaciones Militares, hasta este mediodía, para evitar que se difundan informaciones relativas al despliegue defensivo que este país ha montado para repeler a las fuerzas adversarias.

Un vocero militar dijo que no se ha descartado la posibilidad de descargar un "primer golpe" contra la flota británica, de ser necesario.

También la flota de guerra argentina se encuentra en el mar, pero su ubicación exacta es un "secreto militar".

Los ejercicios de oscurecimiento y otras medidas defensivas para la población civil, se desarrollan intensamente en las ciudades australes, según la prensa local.

La Junta Militar dijo anoche que el pueblo argentino debe estar alerta contra presuntas agresiones de "tipo psicológico" que estaría realizando Gran Bretaña para "minar la resistencia" de los argentinos.

Según un comunicado de la Junta, la agresión se expresaría en la difusión de "abundante información intencionada y deformada convenientemente".

Añadió que las informaciones serán debidamente emitidas por canales oficiales cuando corresponda.

La Confederación General del Trabajo —de orientación peronista— reclamó ayer la suspensión del pago de la deuda pública y privada contraída por Argentina con Gran Bretaña, subordinando su cancelación a un acuerdo integral que preserve la soberanía de este país sobre las islas.

Insistió también en su demanda de que deben ser incautados todos los bienes británicos en la Argentina.

La posibilidad de un choque armado de grandes proporciones entre Argentina y Gran Bretaña, pareció fortalecer asimismo el frente interno argentino, al declarar varios partidos que pospondrán sus peticiones políticas para mejores días.

El Consejo Nacional Justicialista, peronista, dijo en un documento que "es prioridad nacional, la defensa de la patria y las vidaspreciadas de los hijos de la República en esta hora crucial".

Otras agrupaciones políticas se han pronunciado en términos similares, apenas horas después de una concentración laboral de claro tinte opositor.

En calles céntricas de esta capital de 10 millones de habitantes aparecieron anoche carteles con la inscripción: "Colombia, Caim de América", debido a la posición adversa de ese país a la ocupación militar argentina en las islas, el 2 de abril.

VAS AMERICAS
30 APR - 82

Afirma la Argentina que una Guerra con Inglaterra en Gran Escala es Inminente

(Más Información Sobre las Malvinas en la Pág. 12A)

Por JUAN W. WALTZ

WASHINGTON, Abril 29 (UPI) — Argentina, al borde de una guerra en gran escala con Gran Bretaña en el Atlántico Sur por las disputadas islas Malvinas, pareció obtener una victoria diplomática tras una reunión de emergencia de la Organización de Estados Americanos.

Con la abstención de Estados Unidos, los ministros de Relaciones Exteriores de la OEA reconocieron la reclamación argentina sobre las Malvinas.

Al mismo tiempo, sin embargo, la OEA aprobó a una "llegada inmediata" y pidió a Gran Bretaña y Argentina buscar una solución pacífica.

Jefe de la Flota Inglesa Espera una Larga y Sangrienta Campaña

A BORDO DEL HMS HERMES, Abril 29 (UPI) — El contralmirante John F. Woodward, comandante de la flota británica asignada a las Malvinas, dijo anoche que estaba preparado para entrar en batalla y advirtió que la crisis podría convertirse en "una campaña larga y sangrienta".

Sin embargo, señaló en una conferencia de prensa a bordo del barco insignia HMS Hermes, que esperaba que se evitara una guerra total.

"Nadie desea una campaña larga y sangrienta", dijo.

Pero añadió que "no tengo dudas de que a menos que la gente diga 'basta', será una campaña larga y sangrienta, algo que creo que debe tratarse de evitarse por todos los medios".

En el inicio surgido cuando fuerzas militares argentinas ocuparon el pasado 2 de abril el archipiélago de las Malvinas (Falklands para los ingleses).

Gran Bretaña anunció ayer que su flota, actualmente a horas de distancia de las Malvinas, impondrá mañana un total bloqueo aéreo y naval en torno a las Malvinas.

El gobierno militar de Argentina, a su vez, indicó que una guerra en gran escala es "inminente".

En la reunión de la OEA, el pedido de un cese de las hostilidades y el reconocimiento de la soberanía argentina sobre las Malvinas figura-

El texto de la conferencia de prensa fue dado a conocer por el Ministerio de Defensa.

Woodward, de 49 años de edad, dijo: "Me pongo muy emocional acerca de esto. Sería con gran desagrado que enviara a nadie al frente a menos que yo esté preparado para ir allí yo mismo. Ven a cada persona, en cada barco, en cada avión, en cada submarino como individuo".

Confirmando que la flota se acercaba a su objetivo. "Estamos extremadamente cerca de la línea del frente en un momento muy peligroso. Debe haber un deseo político de continuar las negociaciones y eso permitiría que permanecemos esperando... tal vez por un largo período", añadió.

con entre los puntos claves de una resolución de nueve puntos adoptada por los ministros de Relaciones Exteriores.

Preocupado por la posibilidad de que cualquier acción de la OEA ponga en peligro los esfuerzos de paz norteamericanos, Estados Unidos se abstuvo de respaldar la resolución aprobada por 17 de los 21 miembros de la organización, todos firmantes del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca de Río de Janeiro.

Entre los puntos aprobados figuró solicitar la implementación de la resolución 502 del Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU pidiendo el retiro de

(Pasa a la Pág. 19 Col. 3)

(Viene de la Pág. 1)

las fuerzas militares argentinas de las Malvinas, un cese de las hostilidades y el inicio de negociaciones.

El interés principal de Argentina era obtener el reconocimiento, por parte de la OEA, de su derecho a reclamar la soberanía sobre las Malvinas.

ESTADO DE ALERTA

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (EFE). — Los efectivos militares argentinos situados en las islas Malvinas y en el sur del país, se encuentran en estado de "máxima" alerta y el mal tiempo reina en el archipiélago, según indica la agencia oficial de noticias "Telam".

La declaración de la nueva situación, según el mismo medio, fue difundida en la madrugada del miércoles a todas las unidades de tierra, mar y aire.

En los radares instalados en las islas Malvinas, no se ha registrado de momento la presencia de la flota británica, pese a lo cual las medidas de seguridad son también extremas.

Los pobladores del archipiélago fueron obligados a permanecer en sus casas desde las 18:30 hora local y no pudieron salir hasta las 06:30 de la madrugada y el puerto argentino (antes Puerto Stanley) fue oscurcido totalmente durante la pasada noche.

La agencia "Telam" indica que el tiempo es tormentoso en las islas Malvinas y que se registran fuertes ráfagas de viento, lo que al parecer no ha interrumpido el "puente aéreo" con el continente.

Gran parte de los efectivos humanos destacados en las islas Atlánticas patrulla permanentemente el litoral malvinense, ante un eventual desembarco de comandos británicos.

La flota, que partió de su base de puerto Belgrano hace tres semanas, se encuentra en "algún punto del Atlántico Sur", según la misma agencia, para abrir fuego en cuanto las circunstancias lo exijan.

Temen que Malvinas Sea el Foco de un Conflicto de Incidencia Mundial

QUITO, Abril 29 (UPI) — La crisis de las islas Malvinas es tan grave que podría convertirse en un problema mundial, opinó el ex presidente Gaio Plaza.

Plaza, quien también fue secretario general de la Organización de los Estados Americanos, dijo, sin embargo, que aún mantiene esperanzas de que se encuentre una solución por la vía pacífica.

Según el ex presidente, Estados Unidos aún puede contribuir a esa solución y es, además, el más interesado por su situación especial alrededor de ese conflicto.

"En primer lugar, el hecho de que Estados Unidos sea un país americano le impone la conveniencia de ayudar a los latinoamericanos. Por otro lado, Inglaterra es su madre patria y país miembro de la OTAN con el cual tiene compromisos formales", dijo.

Plaza se abstuvo de opinar sobre el criterio emitido por el ex presidente de Colombia, Carlos Lleras Restrepo, en el sentido de que el Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca no sería aplicable debido a que Argentina es el país provocador.

Con respecto a la OEA, manifestó que no tiene duda de que todos los países de América sentimentalmente están por Argentina "pero no sé si todos podrán votar jurídicamente a favor de ese país".

GRULA ESPERA INFORME

NACIONES UNIDAS, Abril 29 (UPI) — El Grupo Latinoamericano de las Naciones Unidas está muy interesado en escuchar al canciller argentino Nicanor Costa Méndez sobre el problema de las Malvinas, dijo el presidente del grupo.

El embajador de Santa Lucía, Barry Augusta, que preside este mes el GRULA, dijo a United Press Internacional: "tenemos prevista una reunión para el viernes y consideramos muy interesante que, si el canciller Costa Méndez aún está en Nueva York, nos informe sobre la evolución del problema".

En las Naciones Unidas lógicamente están repercutiendo los resultados de la votación en la Organización de Estados Americanos donde se adoptó una resolución que pide a Gran Bretaña que cese las acciones bélicas y reconozca la soberanía argentina sobre las Malvinas. También solicita a los argentinos que eviten cualquier medida que agrave la crisis.

Chile se abstuvo en la votación. Fuentes allegadas a la delegación de ese país comentaron que Chile solo podía abstenerse.

Negar el Pago de Deudas a los Británicos Piden Trabajadores Argentinos

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — La Confederación General del Trabajo reclamó la suspensión del pago de la deuda pública y privada argentina con Gran Bretaña, subordinando su cancelación a un acuerdo integral que preserve la soberanía argentina sobre las islas Malvinas.

En un documento, la CGT dijo que Argentina debía asimismo desconocer los intereses que devenga esa deuda desde el 11 de abril, día en que comenzó el bloqueo naval británico a las islas.

Pidió que del monto adeudado se resten "todos los gastos ocasionados en el orden civil y militar por la recuperación de nuestra soberanía en las islas", así como los que se produjeron desde 1983, "fecha en la que las Naciones Unidas resolvieron las negociaciones por la vía pacífica".

La CGT, de tendencia peronista, reiteró su demanda de que el gobierno intervenga "todos los intereses británicos en la Argentina" para precancelar el cumplimiento de sus demandas.

El organismo sindical, el mayor de la Argentina, reclamó también medidas gubernamentales destinadas a evitar que "esta indudable crisis económica que comienza a producir el estrechamiento bélico, no sea cargada a espaldas del pueblo trabajador".

Piden Cartas y Guitarras Para Soldados Argentinos

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — Un capellán militar que asiste a los soldados acantonados en las islas Malvinas dijo ayer que hizo llevar al archipiélago 10.000 rosarios para que cada efectivo tenga uno en el pecho.

"La moral de los soldados es muy alta. Sabemos lo que estamos haciendo", declaró el capellán José Fernández en entrevista telefónica con una radioemisora local.

"Nos levantamos temprano, cuando sale el sol; pero por la noche cada uno sabe lo que tiene que hacer", dijo.

"Aquí cada uno está en su puesto", comentó.

Dijo también el sacerdote que deseaba transmitir un mensaje para "levantar el ánimo de todos los que están en el continente".

"No nos falta nada, que se queden tranquilos" añadió Fernández.

Luego pidió que la población del continente "mande cartas; cartas y guitarras; rosarios y lo espiritual se lo damos nosotros".

E insistió: "Cartas y guitarras para que se reúnan en los fogones".

Fernández añadió que los capellanes hicieron llevar a las Malvinas 10.000 rosarios "para que todos los soldados anden con un rosario en el pecho".

Boicoteo Comercial e Insultos Contra Colombia en Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — Varios carteles con la leyenda "Colombia, Caín de América" aparecieron pegados esta noche en calles céntricas de esta capital, informaron testigos.

Luego de la inscripción "Colombia, Caín de América", los carteles decían "Agrupación de Reservistas 2 de abril", en referencia a la fecha en que tropas argentinas ocuparon militarmente las islas Malvinas.

Las críticas de Colombia a la ocupación de las islas y su abstención en la votación en la XX Reunión de Consulta de los cancilleres americanos desataron sentimientos de irritación en la Argentina.

BOICOT AL CAFE

BOGOTA, Abril 29 (AFP) — El café colombiano

comenzó a ser boicoteado en Argentina, según informaciones radiales captadas aquí procedentes de Buenos Aires debido a la posición de Colombia en la OEA en torno al conflicto anglo-argentino por las Malvinas.

Las informaciones señalan que el grupo colombiano, que constituye el 40 por ciento de las compras que hace Argentina, ha comenzado a ser rechazado en las grandes cadenas de supermercados bonaerenses.

Entre tanto, los miembros de la misión diplomática colombiana acreditada en Argentina, también comenzaron a padecer hostilidades como consecuencia de la posición que asumió el gobierno del presidente Julio César Turbay Ayala en la OEA.

30 APR 1982 LHS ANE en CFS

Hace 14 Años Hubo Acuerdo Sobre las Malvinas Pero los Británicos no Cumplieron

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — Un ex embajador argentino en Londres declaró ayer que hace 14 años el gobierno laborista inglés aceptó transferir la soberanía de las Islas Malvinas a la Argentina.

Pero añadió que razones políticas internas inglesas impidieron la firma del acuerdo.

En agosto de 1968, el gobierno laborista pidió la postergación de la fecha de la firma del acuerdo porque no estaba seguro del "costo político" que significaba el reconocimiento de la soberanía argentina antes de un proceso electoral, cuando el entendimiento ya estaba redactado, afirmó ayer el brigadier Eduardo Macleughlin, ex embajador en Londres.

Los laboristas fueron derrotados en las elecciones de 1974 por los conservadores "más más imperialistas", dijo.

"Los entendimientos cayeron en el olvido", dijo Macleughlin, quien fue el embajador que negoció el acuerdo.

Macleughlin dijo que en el texto del acuerdo estaba "apenas entorpecer la fecha" de la transferencia de la soberanía para Argentina.

FINEN ACUDIR A LA ONU

LONDRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — El opositor Partido Laborista pidió ayer a la primera ministra, Margaret Thatcher, dar a las gestiones diplomáticas una nueva oportunidad y apelar a las Naciones Unidas en procura de una solución a la crisis de las Malvinas.

Tal actitud significó un ruvén al sólido respaldo parlamentario obtenido por el gobierno sobre el tema.

El Consejo Nacional Ejecutivo del laborismo, el poderoso órgano dominado por el ala izquierda de la organización, pidió por unanimidad que el gobierno formule un nuevo llamamiento al secretario general de la ONU, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

Sin embargo, el Consejo rechazó por 13 votos a 8 una resolución patrocinada por el izquierdista Anthony Wedgwood Benn —el más desairado de los pacifistas laboristas— que solicitó el fin de la acción militar y la retirada de la fuerza expedicionaria.

El Consejo Nacional Ejecutivo está integrado por delegados elegidos en la conferencia anual del partido, e incluye destacados políticos laboristas y sindicalistas.

La última petición del laborismo reforzó una apelación parlamentaria del dirigente partidista Michael Foot a la señora Thatcher, para que solicite los oficios de la ONU.

La primera ministra se negó abiertamente a ello en una acalorada disputa que mantuvo entera en el parlamento con los laboristas, lo que marcó el inicio de la desintegración partidista en torno al conflicto.

Argentina ignoró desde hace tres semanas la resolución 502 de la ONU que pidió la retirada de las fuerzas invasoras, y el retraso de la ofensiva militar pondrá en peligro la vida de los soldados británicos, argumentó la señora Thatcher.

Pérez de Cuéllar pidió ayer a ambas partes que "se abstengan de tomar cualquier acción que pueda ampliar el conflicto".

Posteriormente, la señora Thatcher envió a Foot una carta en la que le explicó que la petición de apelación a la ONU fue formulada en una declaración de prensa, y no en forma oficial, y que por lo tanto cualquier respuesta gubernamental será inusual.



Preparativos

Soldados argentinos acantonados en las Malvinas transportan un rodillo con cables para comunicaciones, dentro de un plan de asegurar el contacto con el continente en caso de una guerra. Los dispositivos de defensa son amplos y Argentina está bajo una tensa espera. (Telefoto UPI)

Explica Chile su Posición en la OEA

SANTIAGO, Abril 29 (UPI) — El Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores dijo ayer que Chile se abstuvo en la votación en la OEA sobre una resolución en torno al conflicto argentino-británico porque la reunión de consulta de cancilleres americanos "debió haberse ajustado en sus actuaciones a los términos de lo resuelto por el Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas".

La resolución 502 del Consejo de Seguridad demandó el cese de las hostilidades, el retiro de las tropas argentinas de las Islas Malvinas y negociaciones diplomáticas posteriores.

En la votación en Washington, Chile se abstuvo junto con Colombia, Estados Unidos, y Trinidad-Tobago. La resolución fue aprobada por 17 países que reconocieron la soberanía argentina sobre las Malvinas y demandaron una tregua inmediata en las hostilidades en el Atlántico Sur.

Al explicar la actitud chilena, la cancillería recordó que el 2 de Abril el gobierno de Santiago expresó su "profunda preocupación" por los acontecimientos en torno a las Malvinas y reafirmó "su invariable apoyo a las normas del derecho internacional y a la solución pacífica de las controversias".

Afirmó que esa posición coincidió con la de numerosos países que hicieron fervientes llamados a resolver el diferendo, y lamentó que continúan desarrollándose "actos que tornan cada vez más difícil la situación".

Dicen que Argentina Puede Virar Hacia la URSS

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 29 (UPI) — A raíz de la crisis de las Islas Malvinas, la Argentina podría girar desde su alianza anticomunista con Washington hacia una cooperación pragmática con Moscú.

"Estados Unidos podría muy bien resultar el principal perdedor," dijo recientemente en tono enfático el vicecomodoro Eduardo Fontana, vocero de la fuerza aérea.

El alineamiento diplomático producido a raíz de la crisis de las Malvinas hace claramente posible el viraje.

Declaran su Apoyo a los Argentinos la UDN y las FARN

Por ARIEL REMOS

La Unión Democrática Nicaragüense (UDN) y Fuerzas Armadas Revolucionarias de Nicaragua (FARN), hicieron público su respaldo a la República Argentina en su enfrentamiento a Gran Bretaña en la disputa por las Islas Malvinas. En una nota de prensa ofrecida por el Coordinador General de la UDN-FARN, comandante Edmundo Chamorro Riquelme, se dice que:

1. Ante la grave crisis planteada por la justa recuperación de las Islas Malvinas por parte de la República Argentina, nos solidarizamos con el gobierno y el pueblo argentino en su acción de recuperar parte del territorio argentino y a la vez latinoamericano.

2. UDN-FARN apoya todos los pasos dados por la República Argentina.

3. Como latinoamericanos, estamos dispuestos a luchar a la par del pueblo argentino para ver convertido en realidad el ideal bolivariano de una Latinoamérica unida.

A la Unidad Continental por Las Malvinas

Por Alberto Ordóñez Argüello

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La inveterada rapacidad del León de Britania por secularizar su tampa sobre territorios ibero-americanos, como en el caso de declarar por se la independencia unilateral del Belice guatemalteco, o detentar pretendida soberanía de colonias en el Esequibo venezolano y las argentinas islas de las Malvinas, ha lanzado al Gobierno presidido por Margaret

Thatcher a la cruzada aventurera de artillar, inclusive con artefactos nucleares, la flota de acorazados que se encuentran a punto de amagar sobre el mar austral americano, en los límites de la Antártida.

Dentro de términos mucho más tenebrosos, se reedifica ahora en nuestra América un espectáculo

que evoca la época de los bucaneros y corsarios del Siglo XVI, a partir casi del descubrimiento y colonización por España, la cual se prolongó hasta la primera década del presente siglo, cuando, por ejemplo, Nicaragua logró por decisión autonómica, a través de la gesta del patriota tico-

(Pasa a la Pág. 39 Col. 1)

A la Unidad Continental por las Malvinas

(Viene de la Pág. 5)

microagente Rigoberto Cabezas, la plena reincorporación de su litoral atlántico, sometido antaño al dominio inglés con nombre de Reserva de la Mosquitia.

Se hubo de observar, no obstante, una paulatina descenso del ímpetu imperialista de Inglaterra sobre el Hemisferio Americano luego de la promulgación, por parte de los Estados Unidos, de la Doctrina Monroe de 1823, sustentadora del principio reivindicador de "América para los Americanos", y la posterior culminación de ese proceso de defensa continental al suscribirse el tratado angloamericano Clayton-Bulwer de 1850, por el cual la Gran Bretaña se obliga para siempre a no hacer uso de la fuerza para mantener enclaves o sujeciones de colonias sobre tierra firme o islas de nuestro Continente.

Es así que al escenificarse en estos momentos el caso político de las Malvinas, por el hecho de haber procedido la hermana República de Argentina, luego de retardadas e hiperantes negociaciones, a recuperar el uso de su soberanía usurpada por el Gobierno inglés desde 1833, y manifestar la amenaza de una guerra de repercusión mundial que pondría en peligro el necesario equilibrio este-oeste, se impone, en consecuencia, como recurso insuplanteable levantar el estandarte de la unidad continental americana en defensa del derecho inalienable argentino. En tal virtud, el Gobierno de Buenos Aires ha solicitado ya en el seno de la Organización de Estados Americanos la aplicación inmediata del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca (TIAR), suscrito en Rio de Janeiro en 1947, y el cual, como primer acuerdo de defensa mutua hemisférica después de la Conferencia de San Francisco, entró en vigor el 3 de diciembre de 1948. Dicha solicitud fue mayoritariamente aprobada en Washington con fecha 28 de abril en curso.

Por otra parte, la intromisión de unidades navales de la armada británica dentro de un escenario prohibido que es argenteo de mantener, tratando de hacer fracasar los buenos oficios del Gobierno de los Estados Unidos, interpuestos por su secretario de Estado Alexander Haig, en busca de términos de comprensión y paz ante el Foreign Office londinense, torna más inaplazable la convergencia de la unidad continental hemisférica a fin de abortar el estallido de una situación conflictiva de imprevisibles repercusiones.

Considerándose, además, que la situación que se plantea es sumamente difícil para los Estados Unidos, en vista de ser simultáneamente un Estado-miembro de la OEA y suscriptor del TIAR, así como sustentador principal de la Organización del Tratado del Atlántico (OTAN), se acrecienta la urgencia de que el sistema interamericano pueda golpear las puertas de las oficinas de la señora Primer Ministro Margaret Thatcher, en 10 Downing Street de Londres, para hacerle comprender los graves riesgos que atraviesa la paz mundial si insiste en escudarse en desatar la guerra, molayando las últimas ofertas de avenimiento racional argentino portadas por el señor Haig.

Es absolutamente ridícula la maniobra inglesa de pretender que recarga la soberanía de posesión en las islas Malvinas sobre el consenso de una población de dos mil personas que fueran trasplantadas al borde de la Antártida bajo los auspicios oprobiosos del Colonialismo. ¿Será posible que semejante argumento pueda pesar en el ánimo de la atractiva dama de hierro para que Inglaterra se eche sobre sus hombros, a sólo un paso del año 2.000, un conflicto de tan grandes proporciones?

De ahí que la solidaridad americana deba pronunciarse sin demora en favor de Argentina demandando el retiro de la poderosa flota enviada por el Almirantazgo

británico a los mares australes de América. Es necesario que en Londres se percaten de que en tiempo de siglos media entre la época isabellana de bucaneros y corsarios y la hora actual más bien destinada a prepararse para la defensa de Europa.

Centroamérica, Abril de 1982

Ordena Inglaterra el Total Bloqueo Aéreo y Naval de las Islas Malvinas

(Más Información sobre las Malvinas en la Pág. 10A)

LONDRES, Abril 28 (UPI) — Gran Bretaña impondrá a partir del viernes un bloqueo naval y aéreo de 200 millas alrededor de las islas Malvinas que compren-

dorá el aeropuerto de la capital malvinense, anunció hoy el Ministerio de Defensa.

El ministro dijo que el blo-

queo abarcará un radio de 200 millas alrededor de las islas que los británicos denominan Falkland, similar al bloqueo marítimo establecido el 12 de

abril.

"Desde las 1100 GMT del 30 de abril de 1982 se establecerá alrededor de las islas Falkland una zona de exclusión total", dijo el

comunicado. "El límite exterior de esa zona será el mismo que el de la zona de exclusión marítima establecida el 12 de abril de 1982; a saber, un círculo de 200 millas

a la primera

Ordena Inglaterra el Total Bloqueo Aéreo y Naval de las Islas Malvinas

(Véase la Pág. 1)

Argentina retirará sus fuerzas", dijo ayer la primera ministra ante el parlamento.

Por su parte, el vicealmirante británico, Sandy Woodward, dijo que la recaptura de la Georgina del Sur había sido solo un "aperitivo" y que "el golpe más duro viene detrás", en tanto otros 300 soldados y oficiales se incorporaron a la flota que navega hacia las Malvinas, aumentando los efectivos a 5.500.

Woodward manifestó sorpresa por la rapidez con que se redujeron los argentinos.

"Nos habían dicho que eran rápidos, pero fueron veloces en rendirse", declaró.

"Vamos a aislar a las tropas en las islas Falkland (Malvinas para los argentinos), del mismo modo en que fueron aisladas en las Georginas del Sur", indicó Woodward.

El mensaje de Woodward a las tropas argentinas acantonadas en las Malvinas fue el siguiente:

"Si quieren irse, sugiero que lo hagan. Una vez que lleguemos el único camino de vuelta a casa será por cortesía de la Marina Real".

Por otra parte, informes del canal británico Independent Television News dijo que había recibido "persistentes informes" — todos negados por el Ministerio de Defensa —, de que pequeños gru-

pos de comando ya desembarcaron en las Malvinas, para efectuar tareas de reconocimiento, sabotaje tras las líneas y demoralización de las tropas de Argentina.

Los comentaristas militares dijeron que el ataque inicial podría ser un asalto nocturno a la parte occidental de las Malvinas para establecer una cabeza de playa. Desde allí se iniciaría un operativo contra el sector oriental de las Malvinas donde está la capital, Puerto Stanley, y el grueso de las tropas argentinas.

Los comentaristas militares también especularon que los británicos podrían moverse rápidamente para destruir la pista de aterrizaje de Puerto Stanley, ya sea usando los bombarderos de largo alcance Vulcan o los aviones de despegue vertical Harrier a fin de evitar el traslado de combustibles y suministros hacia el bando argentino.

náuticas desde latitud 51.40 sur y longitud 59.30 oeste".

"Desde la hora indicada", agregó el comunicado, "la zona de exclusión no sólo se aplicará a los barcos de guerra y naves auxiliares argentinas, sino a todo otro barco, ya sea militar o mercante, que opere en apoyo de la ocupación ilegal de las islas Falkland por parte de fuerzas argentinas".

"La zona de exclusión", dijo el documento, "también se aplicará a cualquier nave aérea, ya sea militar o civil, que opere en apoyo de la ocupación ilegal".

"Cualquier barco o avión, sea militar o civil, que sea hallado en esta zona sin la autorización pertinente del Ministerio de Defensa en Londres será considerado como en operaciones de apoyo a la ocupación ilegal y considerado hostil y podrá ser atacado por las fuerzas británicas", señaló el anuncio.

Refiriéndose a la pista de aterrizaje en la ciudad que el gobierno de Buenos Aires denominó recientemente Puerto Argentino, el Ministerio dijo: "También desde la hora indicada el aeropuerto de Puerto Stanley será cerrado y cualquier avión posado en el suelo de las islas Falkland será considerado como de apoyo a la ocupación ilegal, y también sujeto a ataque".

"Estas medidas", añadió el Ministerio, "se toman sin darme de tomar todas las medidas adicionales en apoyo de su derecho a la defensa propia contenido en la Carta de las Naciones Unidas".

La primera ministra Margaret Thatcher, en tanto, mantuvo hoy reuniones de emergencia con su gabinete en medio de versiones de que Gran Bretaña prepara un minucioso ataque contra las islas Malvinas.

Previamente, la ministra se había reunido durante 90 minutos con su gabinete de guerra — integrado por el secretario de Relaciones Exteriores, Francis Pym; el de Defensa, John Nott, y el de Interior, William Whitelaw — con el que discutió temas de estrategia que, según algunas señas, incluiría el uso de la fuerza.

Las versiones sobre un eventual ataque armado eran tan insistentes que algunos analistas militares especulaban ya sobre los detalles de las operaciones.

Entre las señas que llevaron a presagiar acciones bélicas se destacaron las graves declaraciones de la señora Thatcher y del comando de la fuerza de tarea, además de la inesperada imposición de un silencio noticioso sobre la flota que navega el Atlántico Sur.

Thatcher anunció ayer la línea más intransigente en el parlamento desde que tropas de Argentina invadieron las Malvinas, el pasado 2 de abril, rechazando las demandas de la oposición pidiendo una postergación de nuevas acciones militares y la realización de gestiones ante el Consejo de Seguridad de la ONU.

"Si no aumentamos la presión militar, es inverosímil pensar que

(Pasa a la Pág. 13 Col. 1)

Insta la OEA a Inglaterra a "Cesar Inmediatamente las Hostilidades"

Urgió a la Argentina para que se Abstenga de Realizar Cualquier Acción que Pueda Agravar la Situación

Por ADOLFO G. MERINO

WASHINGTON, Abril 28 (UPI) — Los cancilleres americanos instaron hoy a Gran Bretaña a "cesar inmediatamente las hostilidades", mientras el secretario de Estado, Alexander Haig, reanudaba su mediación con nuevas propuestas a Londres y Buenos Aires.

La XX reunión de consulta de cancilleres aprobó un proyecto de resolución con 17 votos a favor y cuatro abstenciones (Colombia, Chile, Estados Unidos y Trinidad-Tobago) en la que se reconoce "el derecho de soberanía de Argentina sobre las islas Malvinas".

El canciller argentino, Néstor Costa Méndez, al terminar la votación expresó el agradecimiento del pueblo y gobierno argentinos por "esta prueba de solidaridad americana" con la causa Argentina.

Por su parte, el embajador de Estados Unidos, J. William Middendorf, explicó que su gobierno se abstuvo para no entorpecer la mediación del secretario de Estado, Alexander Haig.

"Esta resolución se produce en momentos delicados para los constantes esfuerzos de Haig y cuando Estados Unidos ha redoblado sus esfuerzos de paz", dijo Middendorf.

"Dada esa misión —agregó—, Estados Unidos no está en posición de expresar sus puntos de vista sobre muchos de los asuntos abordados por la resolución, por lo tanto, se abstuvo".

En un lenguaje extremadamente áspero, el canciller colombiano, Carlos Lemos Simmonds, declaró que la reunión fue "un inmenable ejercicio de publicidad y aprobó una declaración que nada tiene que ver con los organismos pertinentes".

Lemos aseguró que su país "ve el hundimiento de un documento serio" el TIAR y señaló que "en verdad, no se está ante un caso de agresión" que fue la acusación hecha por Argentina a la Gran Bretaña por el envío de parte de su armada al Atlántico Sur y la recuperación de las islas Georgias del Sur.

La reunión de consulta fue convocada a pedido de Argentina al amparo de las estipulaciones del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca y para adoptar acuerdo son necesarios dos ter-

Insta la OEA a Inglaterra a "Cesar Inmediatamente las Hostilidades"

(Viene de la Pág. 1)

cios de los 21 países signatarios del tratado.

La soberanía argentina sobre las islas en disputa está substantiada en la resolución por el dictamen emitido por el Comité Jurídico Interamericano en 1976 de que Argentina "tiene inobjetable derecho de soberanía sobre las islas Malvinas".

Además, para reafirmar su posición de cese de hostilidades, los cancilleres "instaron a Gran Bretaña y Argentina a que establezcan de inmediato una tregua que permita la reanudación" de las gestiones de paz.

Mas la invocación a la tregua pareció un esfuerzo fútil dado los barruntos que fuerzas británicas estaban a punto de invadir a las Malvinas, al igual que lo hicieron el sábado pasado con las islas Georgias del Sur.

Una fuente de la misión argentina declaró que la resolución era favorable a las aspiraciones de ese país.

El proyecto de resolución aprobado consta de nueve puntos en su parte resolutive y es el producto de negociaciones realizadas entre ellos desde ayer para acercar posiciones y en el que los compromisos fueron la piedra de toque del logro que por un momento pareció imposible.

Todavía, a última hora, lo que el plenario de la reunión (abrió un grupo de trabajo) formado por 15 países, fue necesario el compromiso para que las enmiendas presentadas no dieran o quitaran nada sustancial al proyecto original.

Los esfuerzos venezolanos tuvieron éxito en sustituir el cable "deplorar" por "condenar" la adopción de sanciones económicas de la Comunidad Económica Europea contra Argentina.

Texto de la Resolución de la OEA

WASHINGTON, Abril 28 (UPI) — El texto de la parte resolutive de la iniciativa sobre la crisis de las islas Malvinas aprobado esta madrugada por la XX reunión de consulta de cancilleres americanos es como sigue:

"1- Urgir al gobierno del Reino Unido de Gran Bretaña e Irlanda del Norte a que cese de inmediato las hostilidades que realiza en la zona de seguridad definida por el artículo cuarto del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca y a que se abstenga, además, de cualquier acto que pueda afectar la paz y la seguridad Interamericana.

"2- Urgir al gobierno de la República Argentina, para que, asimismo, se abstenga de realizar cualquier acción que pueda agravar la situación.

"3- Instar a dichos gobiernos a que establezcan de inmediato una tregua que permita la reanudación del normal desenvolvimiento de las gestiones conducentes a la solución pacífica del conflicto, teniendo en cuenta los derechos de soberanía de la República Argentina sobre las islas Malvinas, así como los que interesan de sus pobladores.

"4- Expresar la disposición del órgano de consulta de dar apoyo, por los medios que estime conveniente, a los nuevos esfuerzos que se adelanten a nivel regional o mundial, con el consentimiento de las partes orientados a la solución justa y pacífica del problema.

"5- Tomar nota de las informaciones recibidas (Pasa a la Pág. 13 Col. 3)

(Pasa a la Pág. 13 Col. 4)

29 APR 82 LAS AMÉRICAS

Reitera Argentina su Deseo de Paz

NACIONES UNIDAS, Abril 28 (UPI) — Argentina informó al secretario general de las Naciones Unidas, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, que "desea la paz" y le dio detalles sobre "la agresión británica en las islas Georgias".

El embajador argentino Eduardo Roca se reunió con Pérez de Cuéllar y luego dijo a la prensa que "solicitamos la reunión para mantener informado al secretario sobre lo que está sucediendo en la reunión de la Organización de Estados Americanos".

De las declaraciones del embajador Roca parecen surgir posibles instancias de negociación, quizá con la intervención de las Naciones Unidas, en momentos en que las versiones hablan de la inminencia de una acción británica en la región de las Malvinas.

Consultado sobre las versiones de que comandos británicos habían desembarcado en las islas Malvinas, Roca dijo que "no estoy al tanto de esa información. No puedo hacer comentarios sobre informaciones periodísticas".

También se le mencionaron las versiones que atribuyen al ministro de Relaciones Exteriores argentino, Nicanor Costa Méndez, haber dicho en Washington que se espera la invasión británica en 24 ó 48 horas y Roca dijo que no estaba al tanto de eso.

"Nuestra reunión con el secretario fue para dar cuenta de la reunión de la OEA y pasar revista al problema general de las Malvinas. También le informamos sobre la agresión británica en las islas Georgias".

Agregó Roca que "también hablamos sobre el llamado a la paz hecho por el secretario general".



Listos Para Defenderse

Los soldados argentinos aparecen en un receso durante las prácticas intensivas que desarrollan en las islas Malvinas, preparándose para un eventual ataque británico. Las Fuerzas Armadas argentinas tienen listo un dispositivo de guerra capaz de repeler cualquier agresión. (Telcelote UPI)

Posición de Colombia en la OEA Origina el Desconcierto General

WASHINGTON, Abril 28 (UPI) — Colombia acusó a la Argentina de pedir protección al sistema interamericano para convalidar el "acto de fuerza" que llevó a cabo a fin de ocupar las islas Malvinas.

"¿Por qué si se considera como un resultado de la fuerza la presencia sesquicentaria de Inglaterra en las islas Malvinas, no pidió (la Argentina), a partir de 1947, cuando se aprobó el tratado (interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca), su aplicación para repeler el acto de agresión de que se considera que fue víctima?", preguntó el canciller colombiano Carlos Lemos Simmonds.

"Es cuando menos extraño — prosiguió — que sólo hubiera solicitado la convocatoria del órgano de consulta y la aplicación del TIAR, después que ella misma usó la fuerza para resolver el hasta ahora diplomáticamente insoluto problema de la soberanía de las Malvinas", agregó.

Lemos Simmonds declaró que "esta equivocación en el procedimiento presenta a la Argentina, sin proponérselo naturalmente, a los ojos del mundo, en la actitud de solicitar la protección del sistema interamericano para un acto de fuerza".

Empero, Lemos dijo a la XX reunión de consulta de cancilleres americanos que su país defiende "la aspiración argentina a ejercer plena soberanía en el territorio objeto de la confrontación con el Reino Unido".

Ese derecho "queda controvertido por las propias alegaciones que durante más de un siglo ha hecho por las vías diplomáticas en busca del reconocimiento pleno de ella", declaró el canciller de Colombia.

Pone en Duda México la Efectividad de la OEA

WASHINGTON, Abril 28 (UPI) — México puso en dudas la competencia de la OEA para considerar las crisis de las Malvinas, aunque apoyó el derecho de soberanía de Argentina sobre el disputado archipiélago.

"A mí parece la responsabilidad primordial de mantener la paz y la seguridad internacionales radica en el Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas", declaró el embajador de México, Rafael de la Colina, ante la reunión de cancilleres americanos.

De la Colina señaló que "ningún Estado americano se halla impedido de acudir al Consejo de Seguridad de las Naciones Unidas tan pronto como considere sus intereses vitales, o dicho más sencillamente, cuando lo estime necesario".

En lo esencial, la exposición del diplomático mexicano coincidió con las declaraciones hechas por el secretario de Estado norteamericano Alexander Haig, que fueron recibidas por la reunión con un silencio de piedra. Empero, De la Colina fue aplaudido, pero no calurosamente.

La competencia del organismo regional para tratar cuestiones que atañen al hemisferio occidental es defendida por muchos juristas.

Por ello, De la Colina dijo: "Comenzaré por poner de relieve el hecho incontrovertible de que la OEA y las Naciones Unidas no son organizaciones paralelas, sino que la primera está claramente subordinada a la segunda, pese a los esfuerzos latinoamericanos en San Francisco para debilitar esa dependencia".

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Equilibrio Militar Supone Serios Obstáculos Para la Flota Británica en Caso de una Guerra

Geográficamente Argentina Tiene la Ventaja. La Fuerza Naval Británica Ante su Más Difícil Misión

LONDRES, Abril 28 (UPI) — De una pequeña nube en el horizonte internacional hace unas semanas, la crisis de las Malvinas se ha encendido en un tifón que amenaza envolver a Gran Bretaña y la Argentina en una guerra que podría ser más prolongada y costosa de lo que cualquiera de los bandos hubiera imaginado al comienzo.

La flota de la Armada Real enfrenta la posibilidad o bien de realizar un bloqueo en el cual el tiempo y la geografía parecen estar del lado argentino, o bien un asalto a las islas que podría resultar en severas pérdidas de vidas, incluidas las de algunos de los 1.800 isleños a los cuales los británicos desean salvar.

"Dudo de que en su larga historia la marina haya recibido una tarea más difícil", afirma el capitán Stephen Roskill, un historiador naval.

La Argentina ocupó las islas el 2 de abril reivindicando reclamos que tienen 149 años, y ha enviado allí a miles de soldados, algunos informes mencionan hasta 8.000 hombres, que tuvieron suficiente tiempo como para preparar posiciones defensivas fortificadas.

La estrategia británica tratará, probablemente, de aislar a las fuerzas argentinas:

- Reforzando su bloqueo naval, aplicado por submarinos de caza.
- Interfiriendo las comunicaciones y radares argentinos, impidiendo los contactos radiales entre el continente y las islas.
- Estacionando el grueso de la flota fuera del alcance de los aviones argentinos estacionados en el continente, pero a suficiente distancia como para realizar misiones aéreas sobre las islas.

El primer paso como un estímulo moral para las fuerzas británicas y una advertencia a los argentinos fue la reocupación de las Georgias del Sur, bien fuera del alcance de los aviones argentinos.

Tal vez el próximo paso sería un desembarco de infantes de marina y paracaidistas en una parte ligeramente resguardada de las islas, para establecer un aeropuerto para los Harriers de despegue en pistas cortas, que entonces podrían ser usados como apoyo para un ataque terrestre.

La amenaza británica más letal son los submarinos de propulsión nuclear de 4.200 toneladas cada uno, de los cuales hay por lo menos dos en las aguas de las islas.

Cada submarino está equipado con 25 torpedos Tigerfish, que pueden ser cargados en segundos y llenan un alcance superior a los 32 kilómetros. Son guiados a sus blancos por delgados cables que reciben información de una computadora.

Los submarinos son los instrumentos con que Gran Bretaña afirma su zona de exclusión militar de 200 millas alrededor de las islas, en vigor desde el 12 de abril.

Su desventaja es que los submarinos son armas de todo o nada. Pueden hundir a un barco o no y no pueden ser usados en un despliegue gradual de fuerza.

Los submarinos de 83 metros de eslora, que por motivos técnicos deben mantenerse en movimiento y así crean ciertas pausas de sonido en el agua, serían vulnerables a la detección por helicópteros Sea King argentinos y aviones de patrulla naval Neptune, siempre y cuando éstos pudieran mantenerse dentro de ciertos radios de acción.

Las aguas de las islas son relativamente poco profundas, de unos 200 metros o menos.

La Argentina tiene cuatro submarinos diésel-eléctricos, dos de ellos viejas naves de largo alcance de la Segunda Guerra Mundial, construidos en Estados Unidos, y dos comparados hace una década de Alemania occidental.

Uno de los submarinos, el Santa Fe, fue dañado el domingo durante la reocupación británica de las Georgias del Sur.

Gran Bretaña disfruta de una ventaja en su habilidad probablemente superior de conducir una guerra electrónica supersecreta, escuchando o interfiriendo las comunicaciones y radares de su oponente, y guiando a sus barcos y aviones hacia sus blancos.

El gobierno británico no ha dicho cuántos soldados e infantes de marina está enviando al Atlántico sur. Estimaciones no oficiales men-

cionan a más de 8.000, incluidos unos 2.000 a bordo del transatlántico Canberra y cerca de 1.000 que son enviados en un trasbordador del Mar del Norte.

Gran Bretaña carece de la ventaja de 3 a 1 que los comandantes militares reconocen es necesaria como mínimo para garantizar la victoria de una fuerza invasora que asalte posiciones bien establecidas, lo cual parece excluir un asalto frontal a Stanley.

Pero la dentada costa del archipiélago, de 1.300 kilómetros, favorece a los lavasores, y sería posible para las fuerzas británicas establecer una cabecera de playa en una zona defendida ligeramente y preparar una pista para los Harriers y los helicópteros de transporte.

Con un ejército bien equipado de 130.000 hombres, de los cuales 80.000 son conscriptos, y miles de voluntarios ávidos de combate, la Argentina tiene abundantes reservas de tropas. Pero tendrá dificultades en llevar refuerzos y abastecimientos a las islas si Gran Bretaña establece un bloqueo aéreo y naval efectivo. Y no hay razón para que Gran Bretaña envíe tropas al territorio continental argentino.

La geografía favorece a la Argentina, con puertos cercanos al área, aunque la Armada Real tenga mucha experiencia en reabastecerse de combustibles y víveres en alta mar, lo que mitiga su desventaja.

Sin embargo, durante la mayor parte de los próximos meses del invierno del hemisferio sur, las tripulaciones británicas deberán soportar fuertes vientos, enormes olas, nieblas y un frío paralizante, sin contar con puertos seguros. A causa de factores climáticos y de las mareas, el puerto de las Georgias del Sur no es muy adecuado.

Y podría ser difícil mantener a las tropas en buen estado si deben pasar semanas hacinadas a bordo de los barcos.

Las naves severamente dañadas deberían ir hasta Gibraltar para ser sometidas a reparaciones mayores. Gran Bretaña no tiene bases cercanas a las que pueda enviar por avión hombres o suministros, ni tiene suficiente capacidad de transporte aéreo militar a larga distancia.

Aun así, los jefes de Estado Mayor británicos están programando una operación que podría llevar meses más bien que semanas.

Bombardean a las Malvinas

Aviones Argentinos Atacan la Flota Británica. Derribados Dos Aviones Ingleses Según Fuentes Argentinas. Se Está Desarrollando un Tercer Ataque a las Malvinas. Más Información en las Páginas 9-B, 10-B y 11-B

LONDRES, Mayo 1 (UPI)— Aviones británicos atacaron hoy la pista de aterrizaje de la capital de las islas Malvinas para impedir a las fuerzas militares argentinas el uso de sus aeronaves de combate, informó el Ministerio de Defensa.

"En horas tempranas de esta mañana, aviones británicos iniciaron acciones para reforzar la zona de total exclusión e impedir a los argentinos el uso de la pista de aterrizaje de Puerto Stanley",

Indicó el ministerio de Defensa en una declaración.

El ministerio señaló que no podía brindar mayores detalles de inmediato, y agregó que la acción contra la pista de aterrizaje de la capital de las Malvinas — Puerto Argentino para los argentinos y Puerto Stanley para los británicos — fue adoptada como acto de autodefensa y de acuerdo con la zona de total bloqueo aéreo y naval impuesta el viernes a las 1100 GMT.

ATACAN LA FLOTA BRITÁNICA

BUENOS AIRES, Mayo 1 (UPI)— Aviones argentinos atacaban hoy la flota británica en el Atlántico sur, luego que bombarderos ingleses lanzaron un tercer ataque aéreo a las islas Malvinas, informaron fuentes militares.

La Junta Militar argentina insistió en un comunicado que dos aviones ingleses Harrier fueron

derribados por fuerzas argentinas, durante un ataque británico realizado esta madrugada contra el aeropuerto de las Malvinas.

El gobierno británico afirmó que todas sus aves habían regresado a salvo tras atacar el aeropuerto.

Fuentes militares argentinas sostuvieron, por su parte, que además de los dos Harrier derribados, otros "aviones enemigos" fueron derribados por el mismo fuego británico.

Según el Ministerio de Defensa británico, el primer ataque inglés contra el aeropuerto de las Malvinas se llevó a cabo anoche con bombarderos Vulcan.

TERCER ATAQUE

BUENOS AIRES, Mayo 1 (UPI)— Fuentes militares dijeron que se desarrollaba hoy un tercer ataque aéreo a las islas Malvinas por parte de Gran Bretaña.

Agregaron que además de dos



Tras la Noticia

José María Mata, propietario de un restaurante del centro de Buenos Aires, lee una edición del periódico bonaerense Clarín, cuyo titular dice: "Estado de Guerra en el Atlántico Sur". La situación se agravó en las últimas horas con el ataque de aviones británicos sobre el aeropuerto de Port Stanley, capital de las islas Malvinas. (Telefoto UPI).

que le confiere una evidente superioridad aérea.

Por otra parte, no se dio ninguna indicación acerca de la flota argentina que, según las últimas informaciones, patrullaba a lo largo de las costas argentinas.

La acción contra el aeropuerto se produjo mientras el canciller inglés, Francis Pym, se preparaba para viajar a Washington a fin de sostener conversaciones con el secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig, tras el anuncio de ayer de que Estados Unidos apoyará a Gran Bretaña en la disputa por las Malvinas.

Un vocero del Foreign Office dijo que Pym llegará a Nueva York a las cinco de la tarde, hora norteamericana del este, y que luego tomará un vuelo hacia Washington.

El vocero dijo que Pym hablará con Haig sobre el ofrecimiento de Washington de material de guerra.

Fuentes gubernamentales manifestaron que Pym no llevará una "lista" de las necesidades de material bélico, pero indicaron que Gran Bretaña desearía apoyo logístico para el transporte de tropas, como el préstamo de los aviones norteamericanos de transporte C-5, y también minas antibuques y mayor inteligencia lograda vía satélite.

Bombardean a las Malvinas

(Viene de la Pág. 1)

aviones ingleses derribados, un tercero desapareció de las pantallas de los radares.

DOS AVIONES DERRIBADOS

WASHINGTON, Mayo 1 (AFP) — La embajada argentina en Washington confirmó formalmente esta tarde que dos aviones británicos habían sido derribados por la defensa antiaérea argentina al producirse el ataque contra la base aérea de las Malvinas.

El comunicado de la embajada precisó que uno de los pilotos británicos de los aviones derribados fue hecho prisionero y que el otro pereció.

El comunicado añadió que un tercer avión "fue dañado y también podría haber sido derribado".

Por último, el comunicado expresó que "la pista de Puerto Argentino (Port Stanley) no fue alcanzada por los proyectiles británicos y sigue siendo utilizable".

MÁS DETALLES

BUENOS AIRES, Mayo 1 (AFP) — La fuerza aeronaval británica atacó hoy antes del alba el Puerto Argentino (Port Stanley), anunció oficialmente hoy la Junta Militar argentina.

Varios cazabombarderos Harrier, a despegue vertical, procedentes de los portaaviones británicos "Invincible" y "Hermes" bombardearon y ametrallaron su objetivo, pero el comunicado oficial argentino no precisó si los proyectiles alcanzaron el aeropuerto o la misma ciudad.

El comunicado 38 de la Junta Militar argentina, subrayó que el ataque fue rechazado por la defensa antiaérea, pero omitió suministrar toda precisión acerca de los daños eventuales o las pérdidas sufridas por los atacantes.

El comunicado militar argentino fue difundido poco después de las 0800 locales (11H— GMT) por todas las radioemisoras argentinas, sin ningún comentario.

El aeropuerto de Puerto Argentino constituye en la actualidad la única posibilidad que pose-

en los 10.000 soldados argentinos estacionados en las Malvinas para recibir provisiones y armamentos.

El contundente ataque británico sorprendió en Buenos Aires donde, en los pasillos del Palacio Presidencial reinaba anoche un poco de esperanza por llegar a una negociación, a través de las gestiones del Secretario General de las Naciones Unidas, Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

El presidente argentino, general Leopoldo Galtieri, comandante en jefe del ejército de tierra, fue inmediatamente informado del ataque y se reunió con el ministro del Interior, general Alfredo Saint Jean.

Según informaciones oficiales, parte de la aviación argentina, que cuenta con más de cien aparatos Skyhawk, Mirage-III y Dagger, emprendió vuelo para responder al ataque británico.

Los británicos pueden contar con unos veinte Harrier embarcados en los portaaviones "Invincible" y "Hermes".

El ataque británico se desencadenó menos de 24 horas después de la instauración del bloqueo aéreo y marítimo en una zona de 200 millas marinas alrededor de las Malvinas.

Por su parte, la Argentina había creado una zona exclusiva en el mismo territorio, lo que llevó la tensión a su grado máximo.

Desde hace varios días, las tropas estacionadas en las Malvinas y a lo largo de la costa atlántica habían sido puestas en estado de alerta, así como la aviación.

En los medios militares, se estimaba que, toda vez que el ataque aéreo fue lanzado, resultará difícil detener la escalada, tanto más cuanto la Argentina reaccionará probablemente al ataque, utilizando sin duda su aviación.

Divulgación Ciudadana

por
ENRIQUE LLACA

Breve Historia de las Islas Malvinas

- Las Malvinas son un grupo de islas cerca de la costa de Argentina
- La Gran Bretaña las ha llamado las Falklands
- Fueron descubiertas el 7 de abril de 1504 por Américo Vesputio, famoso navegante y cartógrafo florentino.

España las controló de 1493 a 1811

España ejerció derechos legales sobre las islas desde enero 24 de 1493 hasta febrero 11 de 1811. Esos derechos nunca fueron discutidos por ninguna otra nación durante este período.

Sin embargo, a mediados de los años 1700, precaristas de Francia e Inglaterra disfrutaron de breves estadías en las islas. Franceses de St. Malo, (de ahí el nombre de "Malvinas") se establecieron allí entre 1764 y 1767, pero se fueron como resultado de entrar en vigor el artículo 6 del "Pacto de Familia" entre España y Francia.

Los ingleses trataron de instalarse en las Malvinas alrededor de 1765, pero fueron expulsados por los españoles en febrero 1768; regresaron en 1771 y se fueron nuevamente en mayo 28 de 1774. España entonces colocó a las islas bajo la jurisdicción de Buenos Aires.

Entre 1774 y 1781, España nombró nueve sucesivos gobernadores de las Malvinas. En marzo 18 de 1811, el último de estos gobernadores, Gerardo Boudas, fue instruido por su gobierno para que abandonara las islas.

Argentina obtuvo su independencia en julio de 1816, haciéndose cargo de los territorios gobernados por España desde Buenos Aires. Las Malvinas permanecieron sin ser ocupadas hasta 1820, cuando el gobierno de Buenos Aires comisionó a un americano nombrado David Jewett para que se hiciera cargo de ellas. Jewett se había unido a la Marina argentina "para servir la gran causa de la independencia americana". Llegó a las islas al comando de la fragata argentina "Heroína" el 2 de noviembre de 1820 e informó al gobierno de Buenos Aires que "había tomado posesión de las islas en nombre del país al que pertenecían por ley natural".

En 1822, Luis Vernet, un negociante de Hamburgo, persuadió al gobierno argentino para que le concediera derechos de navegación y pesca y en 1823, Vernet fue nombrado gobernador. En 1830, las Malvinas eran sin discusión parte de Argentina.

Ocupación Británica en 1833

El 1 de enero de 1833, la Gran Bretaña ocupó las islas por la fuerza, ordenaron a los argentinos que se fueran y les prohibieron retornar. Hasta abril 2 de 1833, cualquier argentino que visitara las islas tenía que presentar su pasaje de regreso a su llegada.

En 1851 los británicos concedieron a "Falklands Islands Company" un virtual monopolio y control sobre la economía de las islas. Esta compañía obtuvo sustanciales ganancias hasta fecha reciente. Aunque su auge y fortuna están ciertamente desvaneciéndose, ella siempre ha sido un fuerte obstáculo en las negociaciones entre la Gran Bretaña y Argentina.

Ciudadanos de Segunda Clase

La población de las Malvinas está dividida en dos clases: los locales, que se llaman a ellos mismos "Kelpers" como las algas marinas que crecen en abundancia en las costas, y los ingleses. Estos últimos incluyen los funcionarios del gobierno, los altos ejecutivos de la "Falklands Islands Co.", operadores de radio, etc. Los "Kelpers" han sido históricamente excluidos de los puestos relevantes, no son considerados como ciudadanos británicos y no se les permite emigrar a Inglaterra.

Las más altas autoridades del archipiélago son nombradas directamente desde Londres. Los isleños son ciudadanos de segunda clase. No tienen derecho a vivir en la Gran Bretaña salvo que sean nietos de ciudadanos británicos.

Población en Decadencia

En 1837 las islas tenían unas 2,000 habitantes. Hoy sólo quedan más o menos 1,800. Muchos isleños emigraron cuando se convencieron que había muy poco futuro para ellos bajo el régimen británico.

Inglaterra nunca ha mostrado un verdadero interés en las islas. No existen hospitales y muchos niños en edad escolar que residen en las Malvinas tienen que asistir a la escuela en Argentina y en Uruguay. Muchos isleños que se han enfermado de algún cuidado han tenido que recurrir a los hospitales de Argentina para recobrar la salud.

Cada cuatro meses visita las islas un barco británico. El único aeropuerto en las islas fue construido por Argentina, que desde 1972 ha mantenido el único servicio aéreo regular con el continente, protegiendo así el único eslabón real entre las Malvinas y el resto del mundo.

Todo el combustible que se consume en las islas es suministrado por la "Compañía Petrolera Argentina". Desde hace más de 10 años los maestros argentinos han estado prestando sus servicios en las islas.

Todos estos servicios y esfuerzos realizados por Argentina, fueron elogiados por las Naciones Unidas por resolución 3180 de diciembre 14 de 1973.

Las Intenciones de Argentina

Argentina no ha ocupado las islas para maltratar o producir pérdidas a los habitantes locales, ni tampoco para modificar su estilo de vida. Igualmente no quiere forzar a nadie para que cambie de ciudadanía. Debe recordarse que una comunidad en exceso de 17,000 súbditos británicos viven en paz y han prosperado en la Argentina.

Argentina está dispuesta a negociar una legislación especial para los isleños que habrán de garantizarles sus intereses y preservar sus derechos. Aún más, Argentina está deseosa de concederles derechos especiales y asistencia y asistencia económica que crearán mejores condiciones para el desarrollo de la economía y el bienestar de los isleños.

La Carta de Naciones Unidas

El artículo 73 de la Carta de las Naciones Unidas establece la obligación para los países miembros que administran territorios no autónomos, a reportar regularmente al Secretario General sobre las condiciones de dichos territorios. Cumpliendo con esa obligación, Gran Bretaña ha sometido periódicamente reportes sobre las Malvinas al Secretario General, reconociendo así el status colonial de ese territorio.

En Diciembre 20 de 1960, la resolución 1514 (XV) de la Asamblea General estableció la necesidad de poner inmediatamente fin al colonialismo.

Como resultado de esta resolución, un comité especial fue establecido para tratar estos casos de descolonización. El Comité de 24 miembros incluyó las islas Malvinas en la lista de territorios que deben ser descolonizados. En 1965 la Asamblea General emitió la resolución 2065 (XX) que calificó a las Malvinas como una colonia, toma nota de la disputa entre Argentina y Gran Bretaña y urge a ambos gobiernos para que inicien negociaciones sin demora.

Gran Bretaña ha Obstaculizado las Negociaciones

La Gran Bretaña ha obstaculizado sistemáticamente las discusiones. En los pasados 17 años prácticamente no se ha hecho ningún progreso. Los negociadores ingleses han demorado las discusiones, perdido el tiempo y rechazado tomar decisiones que condujeran a convenios razonables. Siempre muy correctos, pero nunca constructivos.

En 1975 Argentina comenzó a perder la paciencia. El gobierno llamó a su embajador en Londres y le solicitó al embajador británico que

abandonara Buenos Aires. Sin embargo, dos años después, las conversaciones se reiniciaron por iniciativa de Argentina.

En 1981, en las Naciones Unidas, Argentina advirtió al Reino Unido que no iba a permitir que las Malvinas continuaran como colonia británica y solicitó nuevas y serias negociaciones. Argentina hizo una proposición diplomática final en febrero de este año. Sugirió que se formara un comité permanente para tratar el asunto. El Reino Unido no aceptó esta propuesta.

Los Sucesos de Leith

Leith es un pequeño poblado en la isla de San Pedro en la Georgia del Sur, que es una dependencia de las Malvinas. En cierta ocasión fue una estación de balleneros. La factoría aún está allí, obsoleta y sin usarse por muchos años.

Un negociante argentino llamado Constantino Davidoff, con un contrato delidamente registrado ante un notario público en Londres, fue autorizado el mes pasado para desmantelar la factoría y vender sus remanentes como desechos. Su grupo de 43 trabajadoresizó la bandera argentina, lo que causó otro conflicto diplomático. Pero los británicos enviaron el barco de guerra "Endurance" para expulsar a los argentinos de la isla.

La Marina argentina respondió enviando el barco "Bahía Paraiso" un navío usado para llevar suministros a sus bases científicas en el Antártico, a fin de prevenir la expulsión de los 43 trabajadores de Davidoff.

En marzo 20, noticias de Londres indicaban, que el submarino nuclear "Superb" había zarpado de Gibraltar para el Antártico acompañado de otro submarino convencional. La televisión independiente de Londres en su programa "Noticias de las 10" anunció que además de los submarinos, un buque tanque de la Marina Real también estaba en camino de las Malvinas.

En abril 2, Argentina reaccionó ante esta inminente agresión ocupando las Malvinas, las Georgias del Sur y las islas Sandwich. Los británicos respondieron enviando una gran flota naval, incluyendo submarinos atómicos y dos portaaviones. Proclamaron una zona de 100 millas de zona de guerra alrededor de las islas y amenazaron con tirar primero el velas cualquier barco argentino en esa zona.

La amenaza de una guerra total es el resultado de una serie de respuestas escaladas a un incidente relativo de poca importancia en las Georgias del Sur. Después de 17 años de negociaciones infructuosas para recuperar lo que le fue injustamente arrebatado, Argentina finalmente decidió reclamar el control de las Malvinas. El incidente en Leith fue simplemente "la paja que rompió la espalda al camello".

Final

La cuestión de las Malvinas tiene muy poco o nada que ver con cuál sea el gobierno que está ocupando el poder en Argentina. No todos los argentinos comparten el mismo punto de vista en política o en economía y muchos menos en el gobierno, pero todos sí tienen la misma opinión sobre las Malvinas: no debe haber en este ningún mal entendido. Las Malvinas son una causa común de carácter nacional.

LAS AMERICAS 2 MAY '82

Califica Argentina de Injustificada e Intempestiva la Postura de EE.UU.

BUENOS AIRES, Mayo 1 (EFE) — El gobierno argentino calificó de "injustificada e intempestiva" la postura adoptada por Estados Unidos en el conflicto anglo-argentino por las islas Malvinas.

En una nota hecha pública por el Ministro del Interior y Canciller en funciones, general Alfredo Saint Jean, el ejecutivo de general Leopoldo Galtieri afirma que la sanción norteamericana a Ar-

gentina y el apoyo militar a Gran Bretaña, "pareciera ajustarse a los tiempos que se ha fijado, para sus operaciones, la flota británica, e importa un desconocimiento de la resolución recientemente adoptada en la XX reunión de consulta del TIAR del que Estados Unidos es parte".

Tras esta afirmación, la declaración del general Saint Jean hace un repaso a la marcha de las negociaciones para acabar afir-

mando que "si la agresión colonial prosigue su escalada, el gobierno argentino no tendrá otra alternativa que defenderse con todos los recursos a su alcance".

"La sangre de argentinos y británicos —agregó— será derramada incesantemente. El gobierno argentino no asume esa responsabilidad, porque sigue abierto a la negociación y al diálogo y porque no cree que los métodos diplomáticos estén agotados", agrega el

comunicado.

La nota gubernamental recuerda que nada más producirse la ocupación de las islas Malvinas, el gobierno británico anunció que recurriría a la fuerza y ordenó poner rumbo a su flota hacia el Atlántico sur "para restañar por la violencia su dominación colonial".

Agrega que, después, el presidente de Estados Unidos, Ronald Reagan, manifestó su deseo de mediar en el conflicto por vía de su secretario de Estado, Alexander Haig.

"El Secretario de Estado —señala la nota— propuso elaborar un acuerdo que contemplara de forma adecuada el cumplimiento de los diversos aspectos de la resolución 502, del Consejo de Seguridad de Naciones Unidas y el gobierno argentino aceptó esta propuesta, en el entendido de que dicha resolución debía ser considerada como un todo integrado".

Para posteriormente a señalar la serie de puntos sobre los que se perfilaban posibles soluciones durante las conversaciones con Alexander Haig, consistentes en el "cese de hostilidades, retiro simultáneo y gradual de fuerzas militares, levantamiento de sanciones económicas, inicio de negociaciones, protección de los intereses de las poblaciones de las Malvinas y establecimiento de un período transitorio de administración".

Sobre estas bases, señaló el general Saint Jean, el gobierno argentino explicó desde el principio que la soberanía final Argentina sobre las islas no es una cuestión negociable.

Para Saint Jean, el gobierno británico adoptó, por su parte, condiciones sumamente rígidas.

"Se limitó —dijo— a exigir el regreso a la Administración británica anterior al 2 de abril de 1982, rehusando aceptar cualquier medida concreta orientada a dar solución, en un plazo cierto, al problema del reconocimiento de nuestra soberanía sobre las islas".

Enfatiza Costa Rica que EE.UU. Rompió la Solidaridad Continental

SAN JOSE, Mayo 1 (EFE) — El gobierno de Costa Rica afirmó que la decisión de los Estados Unidos de aplicar sanciones a la Argentina rompió la solidaridad continental y calificó la decisión de "contraria a la jurisdicción interamericana".

En una declaración firmada por el presidente de la República, Rodrigo Carazo, y por el ministro de Relaciones Exteriores, Bernd Niehaus, se agrega que esa resolución afecta seriamente la existencia del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca (TIAR).

El gobierno considera que "el acto unilateral del gobierno de los Estados Unidos de América constituye un rompimiento de la solidaridad hemisférica".

"La gravedad del acto estadounidense —señala la declaración— se acentúa en las actuales circunstancias de crisis que vive el Hemisferio".

También considera el gobierno costarricense que al decidir los Estados Unidos darle su apoyo a la Gran Bretaña, "el conflicto de las Malvinas adquiere visos de convertirse en un conflicto universal".

En estas circunstancias, Costa

Rica llama "vehementemente" a las partes en conflicto, lo mismo que a los Estados Unidos, para que "en todas sus actuaciones tengan presente el mantenimiento de la paz, para la existencia misma de la humanidad".

En igual forma, apeló a los Estados Unidos y a todas las naciones del mundo, "en especial a la Unión Soviética", para que "no intervengan militarmente" en el problema, y ayuden a buscar una solución pacífica.

Dice Jack Anderson que la Flota Británica Tiene Bombas Atómicas

WASHINGTON, Mayo 1re. (UPI) — La flota británica situada frente a las Malvinas está equipada con armas tácticas nucleares y tiene autorización para usarlas como último recurso en un enfrentamiento militar con Argentina, dijo ayer el columnista Jack Anderson.

Anderson, en una noticia del programa del canal ABC, dijo que Gran Bretaña confirmó la capacidad nuclear de su flota en "una comunicación secreta" al gobierno norteamericano.

Dijo que un "vocero británico" le aseguró que tales armas no serían usadas "jamás" en el Atlántico sur —la misma afirmación hecha a principios de semana por el embajador británico Sir Nicholas Henderson—.

"Pero la palabra 'jamás' no apareció en esa comunicación", dijo Anderson. "Lo que dice es que el comandante de la flota, el almirante John Woodward, tiene autorización para usar las armas nucleares, pero sólo en 'circunstancias graves'. Estas palabras las tomo yo directamente del documento ultra-secreto".

"¿Qué puede constituir esas 'circunstancias graves'? No están definidas. Un importante táctico norteamericano cree que la flota debería verse amenazada por su inminente destrucción antes de que Woodward apretara el gatillo nuclear".

Las armas nucleares tácticas podrían usarse para destruir un ataque de aviones argentinos que amenazaran a la flota, sin poner en peligro a la población civil, dijo Anderson.

Sanciones Económicas de EE.UU. Contra Argentina y Ayuda para Gran Bretaña

WASHINGTON, Abril 30 (UPI)— Estados Unidos acusó hoy a la Argentina de haber causado el fracaso de sus esfuerzos para impedir una guerra con Gran Bretaña en el Atlántico sur y anunció la imposición de sanciones económicas contra el gobierno de Buenos Aires, así como apoyo material, pero no militar, a Londres.

El secretario de Estado Alexander Haig, que en las últimas cuatro semanas visitó Buenos Aires y Londres en un infructuoso esfuerzo por disuadir a los dos gobiernos de llegar a una confrontación militar por las islas Malvinas, anunció que el presidente Ronald Reagan abandonó la neutralidad seguida hasta ahora en el conflicto.

Haig dijo que Reagan ordenó la suspensión de toda la asistencia militar y económica a la Argentina y que su gobierno "responderá positivamente" a los requerimientos británicos de ayuda material, pero que Washington no enviará tropas a la zona de conflicto.

Una flota británica encabezada por dos portaaviones impuso hoy

temprano un bloqueo aereo-naval al remoto archipiélago, simultáneamente con la declaración de una "zona de hostilidades" por el gobierno argentino en la misma región, acciones militares que colocan a las dos naciones al borde de la guerra.

Haig, en una declaración que fue difundida por televisión a todo el país, hizo un breve relato del frustrado esfuerzo de mediación de Estados Unidos y responsabilizó principalmente a la Argentina por insistir en el reconocimiento previo de su soberanía sobre las islas y por "el uso ilegal de la fuerza" para tomarlas.

Con tono sombrío, Haig dijo que "la crisis del Atlántico Sur está por entrar en una fase nueva y peligrosa, en la que son probables acciones militares en gran escala".

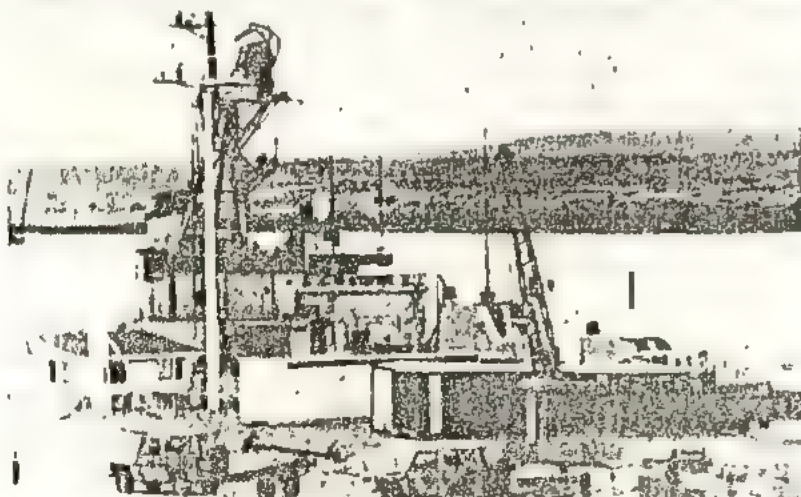
Haig dijo que ambas partes habían aceptado el esfuerzo de negociación de los Estados Unidos, pero que finalmente fracasó ayer cuando el gobierno argentino comunicó a Washington que "no puede acep-

tar" la propuesta de ideas estadounidenses. Haig dijo que esa propuesta representaba la mejor posibilidad de ser aceptada por ambas partes.

Haig dijo que la propuesta de Estados Unidos incluía la cesación de hostilidades, retiro del área de las fuerzas militares argentinas y de la Flota británica, terminación de todas las sanciones (económicas dictadas por la Comunidad Europea) contra la Argentina; administración local de las islas con participación argentina bajo un gobierno interino estadounidense, británico y argentino, y procedimientos para un acuerdo final que respetaría los deseos de los isleños.

"Hasta ahora Estados Unidos se había abstenido de adoptar medidas en respuesta a la toma de las islas que pudieran haber interferido con nuestra habilidad para trabajar con ambas partes en la búsqueda de la paz", dijo Haig.

"El gobierno británico ha mostrado completa comprensión por esta (Pasa a la Pág. 31 Col. 3)



Argentina se Apertrecha

Un navío de la marina de guerra argentina carga suministros en un puerto no revelado, que se encuentra en la jurisdicción del Quinto Distrito del Ejército, a lo largo de la costa meridional de Ar-

gentina. La Junta Militar ha expresado que podría atacar a la flota inglesa antes de que ésta llegue cerca de las Malvinas. (Teléfono UPI)

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Washington, Londres y Buenos Aires

Sin entrar en consideraciones relacionadas con el poder militar de la Gran Bretaña y Argentina que pueda decidir, a largo o a corto plazo, o acaso inmediatamente, el destino de la guerra entre la Gran Bretaña y la mencionada república sudamericana, es un hecho real que lo que está pasando en los instantes actuales, es de inmensa gravedad para la suerte del mundo libre y para la posición del gobierno de Washington con respecto a una parte de ese mundo libre, concretamente con respecto a las naciones iberoamericanas. Y posiblemente hay que incluir también, del otro lado del Atlántico, al pueblo español.

Acaba de hacer unas trascendentales manifestaciones —de excepcional gravedad— el Secretario de Estado de los Estados Unidos de América en el sentido de declarar oficialmente que el gobierno de Washington respalda por completo al de Londres y que le aplicará sanciones económicas y le suspenderá toda su ayuda a la Argentina, así como que le dará apoyo material al gobierno británico en lo que ya prácticamente es la guerra entre Argentina y la Gran Bretaña. En esas declaraciones, el Secretario de Estado excluyó el envío de tropas estadounidenses.

Esto de la solidaridad de Washington con Londres ha sido relativo en las últimas décadas. Por ejemplo, cuando el gravísimo conflicto del Canal de Suez, en el cual el gobierno de Londres fue muy débil, cuando sus derechos no los reclamó como debía, Washington presionó al régimen británico para que claudicara frente al status del estratégico canal que une al Mar Mediterráneo con el Mar Rojo. Y en aquella época, en el año de 1956, el balance de poder mundial era muy favorable a Inglaterra y, desde luego, a los Estados Unidos de América. Y en ese momento comenzó una delicadísima crisis para la posición del mundo occidental en el Cercano Oriente y en su pugna de ideales e intereses con la Unión Soviética.

Por otra parte, cuando el Gobierno de Washington estaba empeñado en el aislamiento de la China comunista, el régimen de Londres estableció relaciones diplomáticas y económicas con el de Pekín. No le importó al mencionado gobierno británico cuál era el interés que en aquel entonces vehementemente tenían los Estados Unidos de América por el aislamiento. Asimismo, todas las gestiones de Washington en Europa con respecto al caso de Cuba Roja no encontraron en la Gran Bretaña el respaldo que, por múltiples razones históricas y políticas merecían.

Es muy lamentable que la influencia de los Estados Unidos de América no se haya ejercido desde hace muchos años ante Londres en el sentido de recomendarle con insistencia y con firmeza que resolviera los problemas jurídicos planteados con respecto a derechos soberanos de países del Hemisferio Occidental reclamados a la Gran Bretaña. Como es sabido, el Gobierno de Londres siempre ha visto casi con olímpico desprecio las reclamaciones jurídicas hechas sobre territorios en litigio, que no han sido objeto de un arreglo definitivo a través de las normas consagradas por el Derecho Internacional.

Quiera Dios que, sin interferencias de la Unión Soviética, este problema sumamente grave, se pueda solucionar dañando lo menos posible los altos intereses e ideales del mundo libre.

Insiste Colombia que su Postura en la OEA fue Sensata y no Emotiva

WASHINGTON, Abril 30 (UPI)— La conducta de Colombia en la reunión de cancilleres, no la asila del sistema interamericano, afirmó el ministro de Relaciones Exteriores de ese país, Carlos Lemos Simmonds.

Lemos también sugirió en entrevista con United Press International que pase a las hostilidades armadas entre Gran Bretaña y Argentina por las islas Malvinas, ambos países tendrán que negociar pacíficamente sus diferencias.

"En ese momento, se reconocerá que Colombia no sólo no se asila del sistema interamericano, sino que es uno de sus más firmes sostenedores", aseguró el ministro. "Colombia trató de demostrar en la XX reunión de consulta de cancilleres americanos que el sistema está basado sobre una serie de principios que no se pueden desfigurar".

Lemos adoptó una postura polémica en la reunión de cancilleres al discrepar del propuesto proyecto de resolución que dio pleno respaldo a la Argentina en "su derecho histórico de soberanía sobre las islas Mal-

vinas".

La conducta colombiana coincidió, en parte, con la adoptada por el secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig, que advirtió que la OEA no era el lugar apropiado para considerar la situación en el Atlántico Sur.

Haig agregó que no era pertinente la aplicación de las disposiciones del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca. La reunión del órgano de consulta fue solicitada por Argentina al amparo de las estipulaciones del TIAR.

Haig trata de mediar en el conflicto entre Argentina y Gran Bretaña por la posesión de las islas Malvinas.

Lemos apuntó que "lo que ocurre en el Atlántico Sur nos preocupa enormemente". Pero agregó que la situación "acabará por resolverse dentro de las vías que franquea el derecho".

Implicítamente señaló que la dura postura argentina en el conflicto está determinada por la emoción.

Navega Silenciosa la Flota de Gran Bretaña

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 30 (UPI)— La flota británica avanzaba hacia Las Islas Malvinas con sus equipos de transmisión silenciados para evitar ser detectada mientras se aguardaban novedades sobre las negociaciones para evitar la guerra entre Gran Bretaña y Argentina.

Fuentes militares dijeron que la flota británica navega manteniendo "silencio de retén hace 48 horas" para evitar que sus buques sean localizados.

El silencio de retén es una de las "acciones prebélicas", explicaron fuentes militares.

Radioficionados argentinos transmiten Tangos los Británicos en la Batalla Radial

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 30 (UPI)— La transmisión de un tango en un programa de la BBC de Londres dirigido a América del Sur fue interpretada como una nueva escaramuza de la batalla radial entre Argentina y Gran Bretaña.

El miércoles en la noche la BBC transmitió por onda corta para sus oyentes en español el tango "Mano a Mano", interpretado por Carlos Gardel.

"Fuíste buena y confidente y yo sé que me has querido, como no quisiste a nadie, como no podrás querer", dice el tango.

Algunos observadores interpretaron los versos de Mano a Mano como una alusión a la influencia cultural y económica ejercida por Gran Bretaña sobre Argentina a lo largo de su historia.

La ejecución del tango pareció una respuesta a la transmisión de mensajes por parte de la llamada "Radio Libertad", dirigida a los integrantes de la flota británica, buscando minar su ánimo.

"Radio Libertad" recuerda a los marinos británicos la plácida vida en distintas partes de su país y la inminencia de la muerte en medio del frío y la soledad a 15.000 kilómetros de su patria para defender un "colonialismo agonizante".

formaron que recibieron instrucciones para no realizar operaciones, excepto por orden de las autoridades militares.

Las oficinas de Correos no aceptan enviar telegramas al exterior que no se expresen en un lenguaje correcto o que empleen códigos.

Ninguna información de voceros diplomáticos fue proporcionada acerca de las negociaciones y conversaciones para evitar una guerra, que se desarrollan por distintos canales diplomáticos, en la ONU y la OEA.

Se esperaban inminentes informaciones sobre un posible viaje a Buenos Aires del secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig, pero "nada hay para informar por el momento", dijeron fuentes diplomáticas.

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Impone Argentina Control a Todas las Informaciones

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 30 (UPI) — La Junta Militar argentina anunció el control de todas las informaciones relacionadas a las "operaciones militares y de seguridad nacional", ante la "inminencia" de un conflicto bélico con Gran Bretaña en el Atlántico Sur.

Al anunciar la decisión, el jefe del Estado Mayor Conjunto, vicealmirante Leopoldo Alfredo Suárez del Cerro, dijo que todas las informaciones "que hacen al desarrollo de las operaciones militares y de seguridad nacional quedan sujetas al control del Estado Mayor Conjunto, previo a su

difusión por los medios informáticos, sean estos orales, escritos o televisivos".

Afirmó que se trata de una medida destinada a evitar una censura de prensa con censuras u otros sistemas restrictivos.

Los directores de medios de difusión argentinos y extranjeros fueron informados de la medida, que incluye como sanciones la clausura de los órganos periodísticos y la detención del director o editor responsable por tiempo indeterminado.

El jefe naval dijo que hasta el presente la prensa argentina se había "comportado correctamente" y que no creía que fuera necesario adoptar dispositivos de censura previa. El estado mayor estableció un mecanismo de consulta en caso de informaciones que caigan en la definición del seta de la junta.

El vicealmirante Pérez del Cerro dijo que la medida se adopta dado el estado de "inminencia bélica" que vive el país, y para evitar la difusión de informaciones que afecten la "seguridad nacional, o la moral de la población o los combates".

Declara Huber Matos su Solidaridad con Argentina

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 30 (EFE) — El Secretario General de la Organización "Cuba Independiente y Democrática" (CID), comandante Huber Matos, ha iniciado una breve visita a la Argentina para "expresar su respaldo al país en el enfrentamiento con el Reino Unido".

En sus primeras declaraciones aquí, sostuvo que "los Estados Unidos no comparten los puntos de vista de América Latina sobre esta grave crisis".

"Estados Unidos —dijo Matos— está atrapado entre sus compromisos con Gran Bretaña y sus vínculos en el marco del Continente Americano, específicamente dentro de la Organización de Estados Americanos".

Matos, que luchó hasta 1958 con Fidel Castro y rompió con el actual régimen de La Habana un año después del derrocamiento de Fulgencio Batista, formuló declaraciones en el aeropuerto Ezeiza.

En su diálogo con los periodistas, el otrora jefe guerrillero de la revolución cubana diferenció entre el respaldo que brinda su organización ("CID") a la posición argentina y el que ha expresado el gobierno de Fidel Castro.

Revisa Venezuela sus Relaciones con Gran Bretaña

TRUJILLO, Venezuela, Abril 30 (AFP) — El presidente venezolano Luis Herrera Campins informó aquí que su país revisa sus relaciones comerciales con Gran Bretaña.

"Hoy por hoy están paralizadas debido al giro que ha tomado la situación internacional y la que presumiblemente pueda tomar estos días", expresó en esta ciudad, 478 Kms al sudoeste de Caracas.

El jefe de estado acusó a Gran Bretaña de "cierta insidia" para "pretender explicar su acción de fuerza en las Malvinas".

Textualmente subrayó que esto se produjo "al decir que si no procedía así las próximas víctimas serían Belice por parte de Guatemala y Guyana por parte de Venezuela, lo cual no tiene nada que ver, ni tenía porque hacer esa referencia a esa situación que no guarda ninguna relación con la actual".

Las declaraciones de Herrera fueron emitidas luego de que en la víspera se anunciara en Londres que Venezuela firmó un crédito por 77 millones de dólares con un pool de bancos europeos liderizados por el Credit Suisse First Boston, para ser utilizados en un programa de construcción de viviendas de interés social.



Guardia Permanente

Un soldado argentino monta guardia en un campamento militar en las Islas Malvinas. Las temperaturas en el territorio insular están cercanas a los cero grados. Las tropas argentinas muestran una gran disposición para repeler cualquier agresión. (Telefoto UPI).

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THE SUNDAY TIMES

Gently does it

IN THIS space four weeks ago we wrote, 48 hours after the Argentinian invasion of the Falklands: "now that the Argentinians are in physical possession of the place, it is no good pretending that it is going to be easy to get rid of them, peacefully or by force". A week later, with the task force under way: "we must concede the point that once British administration is restored, we are ready to discuss and seek to accommodate Argentinian claims to eventual sovereignty". Last week, with tension mounting and Alexander Haig shuttling about: "It is necessary to define our war aims—the minimum that we can accept from our distant adversary and still call it peace with honour".

These comments are even more relevant now. For the moment of decision for the British government is very near. The task force is approaching, if it has not actually arrived at, the Falkland Islands. Diplomatically, the distance between the two negotiating positions appears to remain wide. Parliamentary and public opinion in Britain is still remarkably united, although the doubters have become slightly more voluble, the blow-them-out-of-the-water school slightly more raucous. But on the whole the mood is much as it has been over the past few weeks: not much war fever, but a firm resolve (nourished by international support) to oppose aggression and to restore legality, which means to most people restoring British administration, at least for a period.

After that, there is also fairly wide agreement that the status of the islands must change. We must be ready to talk about Argentinian sovereignty, both as an inducement to the Argentinians to get off the islands, and as a means of ending the impossible situation, which has existed for many years, of assuming responsibility for defending this far-off colony while lacking the proper means to do so.

Given reason and good will on both sides, there should be enough common ground to achieve a settlement tolerable to both parties. But reason and good will are in short supply. General Galtieri cannot expect his illegality to be rewarded by an instant cession of sovereignty, even if its fulfilment were to be delayed by a transitional period of mixed rule. For her part, Mrs Thatcher, by constantly describing the islanders' eventual wishes as paramount, has given the impression that the decision of 1,600 people living 8,000 miles away shall constitute in effect a veto over British foreign and defence policy. This cannot be. British responsibility is to seek to make reasonable arrangements which will safeguard the islanders' interests. It does not extend to guaranteeing self-determination, which in the case of the Falklands is an impractical concept.

The kind of deal the government should be going for would involve withdrawal by Argentinian troops; the British fleet subsequently returning to base and the blockade lifting; the running of the islands for a period shared between Argentina and Britain, with perhaps an American presence as umpire or guarantor; a pledge that Argentinian claims to permanent sovereignty will be discussed with the aim of reaching a conclusion within two or three years. It is difficult to imagine that Mrs Thatcher, whose patriotism and panache none can impugn, could not

sell such a deal to Parliament and public opinion. A revolt by a dozen or so hardline Tory MPs would be a small price to pay.

Whether General Galtieri could accept such a package and sell it to his generals is another matter. If he cannot, or if Mrs Thatcher cannot make the distinction between what she wants and what she needs, then it looks as though some sort of shooting is inevitable. What form these hostilities might take and the consequences, are discussed on this and the opposite page. The very heavy cost which may have to be met for the complete re-possession of the Falklands is one good reason not to try it. But whatever prospects may exist, now or in the future, for an acceptable solution would be jeopardised if we were now to forswear any use of force.

Those who, in and out of Parliament, approved of the dispatch of the task force, and the creation of a maritime zone around the Falklands, cannot take refuge in the thought that all this was done simply to strengthen the British hand diplomatically. The diplomatic process does, it is true, need the threat of force behind it. But if the process fails, then the threat turns into performance.

If that point is reached in the coming week, the cabinet will have to decide how much force to use and where. One temptation will be to argue that, as you cannot for very long keep troops bobbing about on ships in South Atlantic winter conditions, it is best to go for a quick, all-out operation to recapture the islands, whatever the cost—a cost that would include destroying Argentinian military airfields so as to cripple the air force. This must be resisted. The price is far too high, the objective far too dubious. But if the negotiations reach deadlock, force could still be used on a lesser scale.

A landing on South Georgia (whose international status is crucially different from the Falklands) would be relatively simple. It would afford us a base of sorts. And the restoration of British sovereignty would secure a hold over the riches of the Antarctic far greater than any advantage to be derived from re-possessing the Falklands themselves.

These moves, even if successful, would leave the question of the islanders' future, and Argentina's aggression, wide open. It is a question that may have to go unanswered for the moment. If the British blockade is maintained, if bloodshed is kept to a minimum, if international sanctions against Argentina are applied and maintained by other countries, above all by the US, if the Argentinian economy, shaky to begin with, deteriorates rapidly, then the whole picture may look very different in two or three months' time.

For Britain, this would be an uncomfortable and expensive enterprise, which we would much rather do without. But if we are not to have a quick diplomatic solution, it would be vastly preferable to an opposed landing on the Falklands, to an attack on the Argentinian mainland, or to any other of the extreme options which are theoretically open to us. Such a policy would keep the diplomatic doors open and would ensure Britain the continuing support of much of the international community. This is the moment for statesmanship, not for military adventurism.

Free the journalists

IT IS NOT surprising that British journalists working in Argentina should have attracted the particular attention of the authorities. Nor is it astonishing that, once taken into custody, the three journalists now being held in Ushuaia, including our own Simon Winchester, should be at a disadvantage. The Argentinians are naturally sensitive.

In the case of these three, however, they are mistaken. Winchester, and The Observer journalists held with him, are journalists pure and simple. There is no question of their having any other professional

allegiance. They were on a normal journalistic mission, fulfilling their responsibility to inform their readers. They are evidently being well treated. But they are still being held, and only because they are British. This is quite wrong. Argentina acted with exceptional chivalry in returning home the British marines captured on South Georgia and the Falklands, including some who must have killed. At least the same fairness should surely be exhibited towards peaceable journalists, doing a job which all free countries recognise as legitimate.



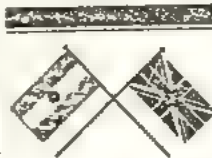
THE SUNDAY TIMES, 25 APRIL 1982

WAR IN THE FALKLANDS I

ON THE BRINK:

Britain advances: marines training aboard HMS Hermes as she neared the Falklands last week

- As time runs out this weekend, Sunday Times correspondents in London, Washington, New York and Buenos Aires report on the final moves, and on the harsh implications for Britain of a war in the South Atlantic



Warlike talk at No 10

FOR TWO hours up to midnight last Monday, April 19, Mrs Thatcher's "war cabinet" met at 10 Downing Street. Present: the prime minister; the foreign secretary, Francis Pym; the defence secretary, John Nott; the home secretary, William Whitelaw; the chairman of the Conservative Party, Cecil Parkinson, and, at a later but crucial stage, the Chief of the Defence Staff Admiral Sir Terence Lewin.

The brief statement issued afterwards gave little indication of what was discussed. It described the latest proposals from Buenos Aires as "complex and difficult" and said they would be discussed further.

But most of the talk that night was about something quite different; what dominated the discussion in the close-curtained cabinet room overlooking the Downing Street gardens was the feasibility of bombing air bases on the Argentine mainland; the relative merits, for instance, of the 1,000lb Vulcan-delivered "gn-explosive bombs with near parachute retarders and the new, highly-classified Airfield Attack Bombs, known among defence buffs as "the concrete dibbers." This sort of jargon has now become part of the vocabulary of high politics.

The Chief of the Defence Staff was at pains to emphasise that if the Falklands were to be retaken, air superiority was imperative. And that could be guaran-

teed only by an attack on mainland Argentina, "taking out" its air bases.

Just how risky this would be is discussed in detail later in this article, and it may be significant that in the days since that meeting, the signals from Number Ten have begun to seep distinctly in tone. Despite the strident newspaper headlines of Wednesday and Thursday such as "NO SURRENDER!" and "THERE CAN BE NO SELL-OUT," there is now a growing tendency among ministers to talk of compromise.

The trouble is, of course, that the clock is against Britain, not the Argentines. While the fleet was on its way, the pressure to act was on Buenos Aires. But the time-scale was always limited. As one American defence expert commented last week: "You can rag up to a point. But there comes a time when you run out of rag."

Now that the fleet has run out of rag, the picture that defence chiefs have been presenting is bleak:

- The fleet must get its detailed instructions soon. It cannot stand off the Falklands for long with the vicious South Atlantic winter storms whipping the sea into 40-foot waves. The physical condition and morale of the marines would soon begin to deteriorate.

- Though the taking of South Georgia is an obvious first move, there are Argentinian marines there, and they can be expected to put up a tough fight. A large number of casualties would stiffen the mood in Argentina and among her potential allies in South America.

- The taking of the Falklands themselves would be a bloody business for the islanders themselves as well as for the Argentinians and British troops. The bombing

of mainland bases in advance would cause diplomatic uproar. But if that were not done, there is a real possibility that Britain might fail in its prime military objective, and the task force be humiliated.

These, then, are the central dilemmas which have pre-occupied Mrs Thatcher and the Tory MPs on whose support she depends, during this momentous and troubled week.



Holding the party together

EVER SINCE she took office, Margaret Thatcher has let it be known that her door is always open to members of Parliament who wish to see her. Over the past week, more than one anxious dissenter has taken her up and been granted a brief session at Number Ten.

Her manner at these meetings is described as tense, pent up, but resolutely controlled. "She has been exuding the strain with incredible stamina," said one admiring MP. "She really is a quite remarkable lady."

The image often projected of her in the past two weeks as an inflexible leader, incapable of accepting anything but the most belated advice, appears to be false.

"She is not to be counted amongst the Churchills," said a ministerial colleague. She feels most at ease with her war cabinet—all of whom have had military experience, and two of whom, Pym and Whitelaw, served with distinction in the Second World War.

She listens intently to her defence chiefs, particularly to Lewin, a softly-spoken but forceful 61-year-old, who spent almost the entire war at sea, and who has never underrated the magnitude of the task ahead. And last Thursday she went to Northwood, Middlesex, the fleet headquarters, to be briefed by the Commander-in-Chief, Admiral Sir John Fieldhouse. She is fully aware of the latest military assessments, and she is under no illusions about the risks the task force faces.

There is some evidence that there have been differences of opinion among the military chiefs—especially in the Air Force. It is notable, in fact, that whenever this question has been raised in the House, notably by the Labour MP Ian Dewart, it has not met with an outright denial.

Less influential is John Nott, politically damaged by the invasion, and a man whose survival at the defence ministry must be in

doubt. Cecil Parkinson, on the other hand, has become almost a regular member of the war cabinet, keeping ministers in touch with the volatile mood of the Tory party.

It is crucial to hold the party together if a deal is to be done. There are deep divisions in the ranks and opinion ranges from those, like Winston Churchill, who say we should bomb Argentina, and Buenos Aires if necessary, to others who do not hold with military force in any circumstances.

Between them is a shifting mass of MPs anxious about the future and already prepared to listen to solutions which fall well short of the original hard line.

When Francis Pym signalled publicly last Wednesday that Britain was willing to negotiate on "certain critical points"—the arrangements for Argentinian withdrawal, the nature of any interim administration, and a way forward to a long-term solution of the islands' future—Parkinson was able to report back that there were no signs of substantial revolt.

The instant fury aroused by the fall of the Falklands

CONTINUED ON
NEXT PAGE

INSIGHTS with Stephen Aris, Henry Brandon, Jon Connell Defence Correspondent, Will Ellsworth Jones, Michael Jones Political Correspondent, Robert Lindley, Rosemary Righter Diplomatic Correspondent, and Peter Wilsber.

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was gone and a united cabinet is reasonably confident of being able to sell a deal. If it can get one from General Galtieri, to all but the hawks on the right wing of the party "Yes, we'd lost some of them," said one minister, "but not too many. The majority won't rock the boat."

But the ride has not been easy — as Pym discovered last week when he assured the House that there would be no military action while negotiations proceeded. As he left the chamber, there was a flurry of activity. Surely this ruled out the taking of South Georgia? Hapazard reporters were consulted for the exact wording, and then an embarrassed foreign secretary returned to the dispatch box to clear up the position: the use of force could not, of course, be ruled out in the meantime, he said.

All of this shows how carefully the party must be handled and how much the cabinet is handling events from crisis to crisis. Pushing a military junta into a settlement which can serve Argentina's political jungle on the one hand, and

command support at Westminster on the other, remains a formidable challenge.

The message now going out to MPs shows that the British position has moved significantly in the past two weeks. While restoring her conviction about the islanders' rights to self-determination, appealing to the world for support as the aggrieved party, and holding out the possibility of force if negotiations fail, Mrs. Thatcher is tacitly acknowledging the need to accommodate Argentina's basic claims—however far into the future. The Foreign Office advice on the question of the flag to be flown during any interim period is that it would be foolish to "get hung up" about such an issue—though there are rumblings of discontent about that.

The long-term settlement being discussed revolves around the possibility of a deal on the Hong Kong style—a lease to Britain during which time the wounds of war would heal and Argentina's sovereignty would be assured, while Britain and the islanders return to their normal pursuits.

None of this has outraged the party as a whole. But

it has yet to be spelt out to them in cold, hard terms. One of the realities of the build-up to war, as the media (including this newspaper) has found to its cost, is that, as always, truth is liable to be the first casualty.

The best example to emerge so far has been the case of the phantom submarine. On April 8, the day after the British blockade of the Falklands was announced, there was hardly a newspaper which did not confidently say that it would be enforced by Britain's nuclear-powered submarines, and in particular by HMS Super.

It was therefore embarrassing to discover last week that Super was not in the South Atlantic at all, but in her base in the Clyde. And though she has five sister submarines, all equally lethal, there is no firm evidence that any of them has been in the South Atlantic.

The MoD points out that it has never said Super was in the South Atlantic; it always steadfastly refuses to reveal the position of any Royal Navy ships or submarines at sea.

True, but in the daily "background" briefings given by the MoD to defence correspondents since the crisis began there has not been a hint of warning that the media were peddling disinformation.

A senior Tory MP said a week ago that the prospects of a famous British naval victory were about 50-1, of Mrs. Thatcher being toppled by a crisis, 10-1; and of a messy compromise, even. By the end of last week he was beginning to hedge his bets. He might possibly, he thought, have over-rated the chances of the messy compromise. But there was still one factor which could alter the odds at a stroke: the taking of South Georgia.



The toll of an invasion

SOUTH GEORGIA might almost have been designed for invasion. The south of the island is impossibly mountainous and the weather, at this time of the year, is treacherous. But the northern coastline, over 130

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miles long, offers a number of sheltered deep-water bays. Guarding them all would take an army of men, the Argentines say they have just 140 marines there, and British sources put the number at only 50.

Those troops are dug in at Grytviken, the tiny "capital," and at Leith Harbour, about 20 miles to the north. In between are many inlets and bays where a British invasion force could land not just unopposed, but even undetected.

Moreover, an invasion should not threaten the lives of the civilians still on the island—13 British scientists and a two-woman crew from

Daily Mail
Pym takes a bomb message from Marjorie
THERE CAN BE NO SELL-OUT

The possibility of Pym's death from Britain on 10th September 1982
NO SURRENDER

Two of last week's bellicose headlines

Anglia Television—because, up to yesterday, they were all at bases well away from any likely battle zone.

But although South Georgia would undoubtedly be recaptured, the question is: at what cost. In an interview with Robert Lindley in Buenos Aires last week, an army colonel said he doubted if "a single one" of the Argentinian marines would come off South Georgia alive. If they are slaughtered, Argentina would score at least a propaganda victory since she managed to complete her entire invasion without inflicting a single casualty.

Against that risk, however, there are sound strategic reasons for taking South Georgia. Such a land base would provide a plentiful fresh water supply for the fleet, and huge tanks at Grytviken, Leith Harbour and Schlieker Bay—once used for whale oil—could store fuel for ships and aircraft.

But all that is only really significant if Britain then intends to play a waiting game: impose an air blockade on the Falklands to turn the screw, and give diplomacy more chance to work.

If, on the other hand, the task force is ordered to retake the Falklands, a base on South Georgia would be too far away to be of much use. And in other respects, a British invasion of the Falklands is a most sobering proposition.

Again, geography would seem to be on Britain's side. There are literally dozens of places where troops could be landed by helicopter or assault craft.

And if the task force chose to attack West Falkland first, it would be opposed by only one battalion—some

900 men—based at a small settlement called Fox Bay. That would give it a very useful land base for a subsequent attack on the much more heavily defended East island.

Alternatively, it could attack East Falkland directly, concentrating on the two key points—Darwin (where there is one Argentinian battalion) and Port Stanley, the capital (where there are at least four).

But either course is, as things stand, unthinkable. For as long as Argentina remains its undoubted superiority in the air, a mass invasion could be achieved only at horrendous cost.

Involving forces are inevitably at their most vulnerable as they land. And the Argentinians, with 112 fighters and bombers, would wreak mayhem. British Sea Harriers from the two carriers in the task force would provide some shield but there are only 20 of them.

So if there is to be an invasion of the Falklands, Britain must first neutralise that disadvantage by destroying Argentinian air bases. It will not be enough to bomb the runway at Stanley on the East island where, according to one American source, some Mirages and Skyhawks are now waiting. There are at least three air bases on the coast of mainland Argentina which will also have to be taken out.

But although Winston Churchill—who has become something of an embarrassment to the government since Mrs. Thatcher appointed him a party defence spokesman three weeks ago—has positively revelled in the daring-do prospects of "a single Israeli-style synchronised attack," it is not going to be that easy.

The job will almost certainly have to be done by Britain's ageing fleet of Vulcan bombers, some of which are reported to have arrived already at Ascension Island from there, they could—with mid-air refuelling—reach Argentina.

But if they fly in at anything over 1,000 feet they could be picked up by enemy radar while they are still 200 miles away, giving the Argentinians ample time to scramble fighters. Even a low-level attack might not go undetected: the Argentinians also have American-built mobile radar stations, capable of picking up a Vulcan at 100 feet up to 45 miles away.

The Vulcans are equipped with electronic countermeasures, which provide some protection against guided missiles, but they would still be vulnerable to rockets and shells.

If they did get through, however, the Vulcans could deliver a devastating blow. Once the backbone of Britain's nuclear strike force, they can now be armed with a new and extraordinarily sophisticated weapon called the Airfield Attack Bomb. This "cannibal" is designed to bury itself deep into the concrete or tarmac of runways before exploding, causing huge craters not easily repaired. It can even be set to explode after some delay.

But any military offensive



Argentina prepares: Infantry parading at the mainland base of Comodoro Rivadavia

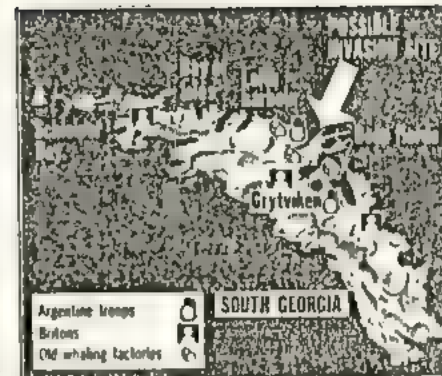
THE SUNDAY TIMES, 25 APRIL 1982

WAR IN THE FALKLANDS 2

THE REALITIES OF WAR

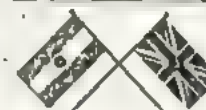


The bases British might bomb and (right) South Georgia, ripe for invasion.



would be bound to cause political and diplomatic repercussions. And we know that by last Wednesday the idea of bombing the Argentine mainland was no longer at the top of the war cabinet's agenda. A negotiated peace—which all but a handful of Tory MPs now desperately wanted—was to be given a last chance

ON THURSDAY morning,



A last chance for peace

Francis Pym flew to Washington for what was essentially a marathon editing exercise. He and the US secretary of state, Alexander Haig, tabled all the documents and formulae put forward in London, Washington and Buenos Aires in the hope of cooling the crisis and tried, by "taking out the worst of the horrors" to produce a compromise that both the Commons and the Junta could live with.

The 36-hour visit reached its climax at Friday's British residence lunch. Coffee cups and cigarettes were pushed aside for an impromptu "round table" that went on until 4.10 pm, when the final version emerged. As Pym gloomily observed: "A very thorough examination of the problems must, I suppose, be a form of progress."

He flew back yesterday with a cobbled-together document that falls far short of Britain's minimum requirements as spelled out in Wednesday's Commons debate. It is still, however,

on the table. Asked in Washington, whether the deal had been sufficiently "devised," a British official said succinctly: "No."

Pym's brief in Washington was twofold: to leave Haig in no doubt that the Argentinian plan was wholly unacceptable, and to stress that, unless it could be significantly improved, there was no alternative to some use of force. But a third motive for the trip was to show Britain's readiness, before that drastic step, to turn every possible diplomatic stone.

One important new phrase and one symbolic concession make up the advance, such as they are. Britain is now ready to substitute "an identifiably British administration" for its earlier demand of an unconditional return to the status quo ante. And on the emotive question of flags, London is now prepared to live with several banners, including the Argentinian, rather than insisting that only the Union Jack may fly over the islands. But on the crucial question of sovereignty—which we will discuss but not concede in advance—there has been no useful progress.

Publicly, the hasty trip was a success. Pym was besieged by reporters; lost no chance to repeat that "Britain will not shrink from the use of force if necessary, and it would be no service to peace to pretend otherwise"; and won general applause—plus a blossoming of pro-British lapel badges. The problem was with Haig and the increasingly volatile Argentinians with whom Washington keeps in constant touch. The British came away plumbly convinced that any package agreed in the US would be rejected in Buenos Aires within minutes.

In a moment of exasperation, Pym summed up his dilemma: "I would like to find new pressures, if I could think of any." Within hours he was flying back to London, acutely conscious that any new pressure now

is likely to have high explosive attached. By the time he touched Heathrow the British view had crystallised as: "The end of the negotiating road has not been reached but it is a question of days rather than weeks."

One strong incentive for a speedy solution is the impact of military action on international opinion. Predicting this is hazardous.

In the US last week, few people, even in Congress, had lifted their eyes from the complexity of the Reagan budget to contemplate the repercussions of a war in the South Atlantic.

Haig (and indeed Reagan) might well welcome some form of swift, surgical action. The state department has been heard to wonder aloud whether Britain's real hang-up, as the task force sailed south, might not be sovereignty but willingness to strike.

A bloodless recapture of South Georgia, or the scientific removal of some of Argentina's advanced aircraft might also concentrate minds, without being too painful, even in some Latin American countries. All, like the US itself, are ostensibly allies of Argentina through the Organisation of American States, and often as co-signatories of the Rio Treaty. But unless there was a real bloodbath—say an inadvertent bomb on a hospital or an orphanage—they would probably not move too swiftly from rhetoric to military support.

Timing is of great importance. If there is any idea, for instance, of attacking South Georgia tomorrow, it should be remembered that the foreign ministers of the Rio Treaty countries, with Argentina as their chairman, are due to meet in Washington tomorrow.

No one expects, at this stage, more than a series of airy speeches. But that could change dramatically if an Associated Press message should land in the middle of their conference table saying: "British marines take out Grytviken."

British Journalists, Accused of Spying In Argentina, Fail to Win Bail Plea

By Richard Harwood

Washington Post Foreign Service

BUENOS AIRES, April 28—Journalists from two of Britain's most renowned newspapers were denied bail last night by an Argentine judge who ruled earlier that they will be put on trial for espionage. They face prison sentences of two to eight years if convicted.

The defendants, who have categorically denied the government's allegations, are Simon Winchester of The Sunday Times and the reporter-photographer team of Ian Mather and Tony Prime of The Observer.

They were arrested more than two weeks ago at the Rio Grande airport, which is both a commercial facility and a military air base on Tierra del Fuego at the southern tip of Argentina. Prime was accused of photographing military aircraft and facilities. Mather and Winchester were accused of gathering military information, including a visual reconnaissance by Winchester, who was using binoculars.

Prime's photographs and the notebooks of Mather and Winchester were seized as evidence by military authorities. The three men were then shipped south to Ushuaia for confinement in the territorial jail.

On April 19, federal Judge Carlos Sagastume began preliminary hearings to determine if sufficient evidence existed to bring the journalists to trial. At the start of the hearings he said he recognized that there is

often a "gray area" between "the public's right to know" and the demands of military security.

Over the next three days the judge listened to evidence and arguments presented by military witnesses and prosecutors. The journalists were represented at the proceedings by a Buenos Aires attorney, Guillermo Balaban, but they were not allowed to present a case in their own defense. The judge said the sole purpose of the proceeding was to determine if the evidence against the journalists was strong enough to justify their detention and trial.

Friday night, he ruled against the trio, saying that while he did not believe they were "habitual" or professional spies, he did believe they had been acting more as British patriots than as professional journalists.

The judge is a former naval officer whose son currently is commander of a gunboat in the Navy.

In a brief meeting last week with other reporters, Winchester, Mather and Prime denied the allegations and insisted that they had been acting solely as professional journalists.

Their attorney is now in Ushuaia to determine if an appeal will be filed on the ruling by which bail was denied.

The three men, all in their mid-forties, are being held in a cell nine by nine feet. They said last week they had not been mistreated and were adequately fed. The Ushuaia

police chief, Jose Baitroso, said their mental attitude is good and they are allowed to exercise.

There is considerable concern among other journalists, particularly in the British press corps, that any trial conducted now would be prejudiced by attitudes arising out of the conflict between Argentina and Britain over the Falkland Islands.

Winchester and Mather were on the Falklands when they were invaded and occupied on April 2 by Argentine forces. They were evacuated to Montevideo, Uruguay, and had only recently returned to Argentina when they were arrested at Rio Grande.

George F. Will

THE WASHINGTON POST

Thursday, April 29, 1982

A

The Issue Is Appeasement, and It's Important

Having heard Argentine diplomats discuss their rights under the Rio Treaty, I want to hear more, just as I once wanted a second bite of abalone in order to see if the first bite had been as bad as I thought. The treaty, they say, is supposed to protect Argentina's invasion force against British "aggression" and "colonialism." One good that can come from this crisis is a further discrediting of the third world's vocabulary of invective.

God tempers the wind to the shorn lamb, but Argentina's rambunctious leaders, who are not lamb-like, must protect themselves from the chill blast of civilized disapproval by wrapping themselves in the threadbare cloth of "anti-colonialism." It has been said that when listing characteristics that distinguish humans from lesser animals, the list should include inconsistency. Argentina's Junta is very human. Its "anti-colonial" members resemble the Belgian colonists in the Congo, as described by Joseph Conrad (in "Heart of Darkness"):

"Their talk was the talk of sordid buccaners: It was reckless without hardihood, greedy without audacity. . . there was not an atom of foresight or of serious intention in the whole batch of them, and they did not seem aware

these things are wanted for the work of the world."

Perhaps this crisis can teach other potentially rambunctious governments that life takes a toll on governments which, like Argentina's, lack foresight. Unfortunately, Britain's government has confused the central point. Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has conducted herself with pleasing vivacity, but she has wrongly insisted that the interests of the 1,800 Falklanders must be "paramount." What actually is of paramount importance is that Argentina's interests should be, and should be seen to be, defeated.

Hitler had no valid claim to the Sudetenland, but compared to Argentina's impudent claim to the Falklands, his claim seems almost arguable. The Sudetenland at least bordered Germany, and there were 3 million German-speaking persons in Czechoslovakia. Many felt culturally close to Austria and were so pleased by the Anschluss that they clamored for Hitler's intervention.

People who advocate accommodating the appetites of aggressive dictators get cranky and pedantic when Munich (where the Sudetenland—Hitler's "last territorial claim"—was ceded to Germany) is mentioned. They set about enumerating political and cultural dif-

ferences. Today, the crux of the appeasement argument, made in British and other accounts, is: "Everyone" knows that Britain must eventually yield sovereignty.

To which the answer is: that never was true, and is especially untrue now that yielding would reward aggression, and now that the crisis has focused attention on the proximity of the islands to important sea lanes. As Argentina's foreign minister recently said after reiterating his country's claim to the islands, "... there is something much more important. The meaning of the Argentine presence in the islands is that Argentina controls an area in the South Atlantic, politically and economically. . . ."

Immediately after the Second World War, a clothheaded socialite in London, contentedly surveying the swells at a society wedding, said: "After all, this is what we've been fighting for." To which a lady of wit and irony replied: "What? Are they all Poles?" The lady was drolly underscoring this fact: the immediate cause of a fight is often not what people fight for or about. The war started over Poland, but was not for or about Poland. Similarly, the rights of the Falklanders were at issue at the beginning of this crisis, but they are not the point of the crisis.

The point is international law or, if not exactly "law," at least minimal orderliness. It is arguable that the idea of international law is almost a contradiction in terms because law presupposes an enforcement agency, and there is no sovereign to enforce international law. But in any case, Sen. Pat Moynihan (D-N.Y.) defines the context of the crisis: "This is . . . the first occasion since the Second World War, and the formation of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, that nationals of a NATO member have fallen under foreign military rule."

The Economist of London warns the United States against the idea of "alliance a la carte," and De Gaulle's question still echoes: can the United States be counted on to identify sufficiently with the interests of its European partners? The Falklands episode calls to mind the crisis of the 1930s, the failure to deal with dictators. That failure made postwar Europe receptive to the idea of collective security.

The Falklands crisis underscores the problematic future of the collectivity. An inadequate U.S. response to the crisis in the South Atlantic would bring on a crisis of neutralism in the North Atlantic alliance.

THE WASHINGTON POST

Thursday, April 29, 1982

Jailed Correspondents

A MID THE rising emotions of the Falkland crisis two weeks ago, Argentina arrested three British newspapermen for espionage. Unfortunately, the Argentine authorities are now compounding the original mistake by refusing to release them. It is a disquieting exception to the civility that both Britain and Argentina have observed so far in dealing with each other's citizens.

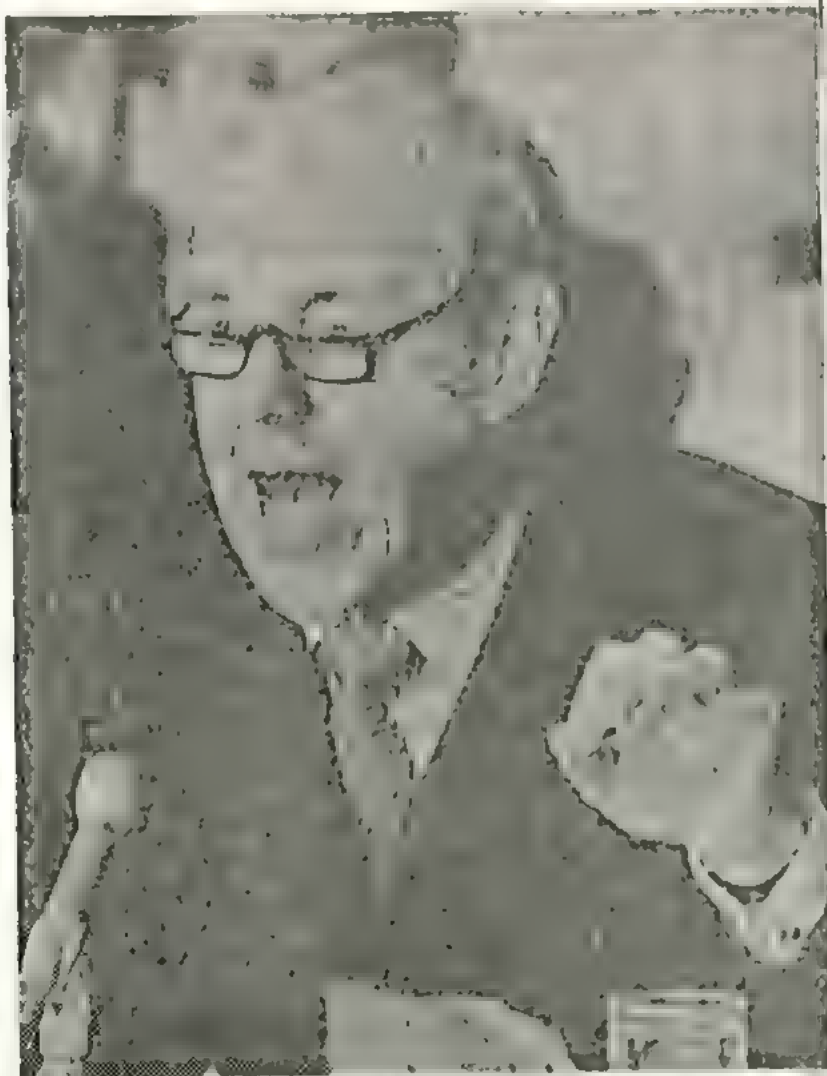
The three—Ian Mather and Tony Prime of the Observer, and Simon Winchester of the Sunday Times—were arrested in Tierra del Fuego, at the southern tip of the country. But their continued detention seems to involve more than the anxieties of isolated provincial officials. According to the Observer, they were immediately flown 1,400 miles north to Buenos Aires by the naval intelligence service, then flown back to the province for a hearing that ran all last week. Now the local court has denied them bail.

Argentina has subsequently declared its southern port cities off limits to correspondents, not an unusual restriction in a country engaged in military operations. But the three British newspapermen were in Tierra del Fuego, and were under arrest, long before that prohibition. The government now seems to be applying its rules retroactively.

In a time of tension between two countries, it is always easy to go after the correspondents. They enjoy none of the formal and traditional protections that surround diplomats, or even soldiers. Argentina repatriated the British marines of the Falklands garrison, a decent and even courtly gesture. As the Sunday Times commented, "At least the same fairness should surely be exhibited toward peaceable journalists, doing a job which all free countries recognize as legitimate."

Thursday, April 29, 1982

THE WASHINGTON POST



By Douglas Cavalier—The Washington Post

Argentine Foreign Minister Costa Mendez speaks at yesterday's OAS session here.

Ferocious Weather Daunts British Fleet

By Gareth Parry
Manchester Guardian

ABOARD HMS INVINCIBLE—The prospect of battle off the Falkland Islands often seems less daunting than the possibility that some ships of the British task force could be ordered to stand off, or become involved in a lengthy blockade in some of the world's worst weather.

The latest weather satellite reports received directly by the Invincible paint a grim picture of conditions in the Antarctic, where the depth of winter comes in July. Senior officers contemplating a stand off situation in the area say the prospect would be "almost intolerable."

South Georgia, the Falkland Islands' dependency, 800 miles east of the group, today is receiving heavy snowfalls and gale-force winds above 30 knots. Although the temperature is about 36 degrees, the wind-chill factor brings it down to 4 degrees above zero.

The report on the Falkland main islands, which are somewhat sheltered, says it is cold there with bright winter sunshine. Temperatures in Stanley Harbor are expected to be in the region of 38 degrees.

The area gets heavy rain on approximately 300 days of the year—twice that of England. A gale-force wind blows on one day in every three. A front now giving comparatively good weather to the area is expected to disappear within the next day. The Invincible's senior meteorological

and oceanographic officer said, "Experience we have gained in North Atlantic exercises is now invaluable."

"We are completely at home forecasting in this sort of weather—the only difference is that, down here, everything is upside down. But as a deep-water Navy, we are geared to sailing in it."

There was graphic illustration of this, even as he spoke. A supply ship was alongside the Invincible replenishing the larger vessel as the two steamed side-by-side through huge seas that broke over the auxiliary ship's bows.

But these seas bear little comparison with the 30-footers that are normal off the Falklands.

The ferocious weather might be used to advantage by a captain wishing to avoid detection. Storms play havoc with radar soundings. Water temperatures greatly affect the way sound travels.

Meteorological forecasts are also affecting Invincible's Harrier pilots' decisions on what altitude to take to avoid turbulence and icing and to keep from signaling their presence with contrails.

Nothing has stopped Harriers from flying. Lt. Cmdr. Nigel (Sharky) Ward, 37-year-old squadron leader, said "I expect flying conditions to be adequate for what we have to do—quite flyable but not ideal. It would be nice to have a sunny day with a nice clear sky and a pint of beer waiting for us when we land, but I don't think we'll get that."

Senate Resolution Sides With Britain

By Margot Hornblower
Washington Post Staff Writer

The Senate, frustrated with the administration's faltering negotiations in the Falkland Islands crisis, declared last night that the United States "cannot stand neutral" and should work "to achieve full withdrawal of Argentine forces" from the South Atlantic islands.

The resolution, which passed 79 to 1 with Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) casting the lone vote against it, was considerably diluted from the version introduced on Wednesday by Sen. Joseph R. Biden Jr. (D-Del.).

However, Biden said that the compromise, drafted to avoid a filibuster by Helms, "makes absolutely clear to the whole world we stand four-square with Great Britain."

Sen. Daniel Patrick Moynihan (D-N.Y.) quoted Dante—"The hottest circles of hell are reserved for those who in times of crisis preserve their neutrality"—and added that "we have avoided that. We stand behind Great Britain."

The resolution stopped far short of urging economic sanctions against Argentina for its April 2 invasion of the Falklands or of endorsing U.S. logistical support for the British fleet.

And Sen. John W. Warner (R-Va.), who had teamed with Helms to block the amendment as originally worded, said: "This is not the time to take a position which would tilt in any way.... The U.S. is the only party which could negotiate a successful termination of this dispute.... I have not given up hope that a peaceful solution may yet come."

Likewise, Helms said: "I hope no nation in Central or South America will interpret this as being a slap in

the face. What we face is a severe strain in the Western Hemisphere system as a result of the dispatch of the British fleet...."

Throughout the day, during furious negotiations over the resolution among various senators, the administration took no position on the issue, treating it as an internal Senate matter.

Majority Whip Ted Stevens (R-Alaska), acting as Senate leader in the absence of Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr. (R-Tenn.), was careful to point out that "this is not a resolution under the War Powers Act. It does not authorize the president to use military force to assist our allies."

To reinforce that point, language in the original resolution that urged the administration to "use all appropriate means to assist the British government" was deleted. Also deleted was a phrase saying that the United States should uphold "the principle of self-determination" in the Falklands dispute. Argentina does not want self-determination in the Falklands, whose inhabitants have been under British rule for 149 years.

However, the resolution supports U.N. Security Council Resolution 502, which calls for Argentine withdrawal from the islands, and recognizes the "right of the United Kingdom and all other nations' right of self-defense under the United Nations Charter."

Biden's resolution, attached to a nuclear waste bill, was cosponsored by a majority of the Foreign Relations Committee and its chairman, Charles H. Percy (R-Ill.).

However, some senators would have gone even further to shore up the U.S.-British alliance. "Our support should take the form of economic sanctions, shared intelligence, logistic supports and consideration of any requests for assistance or support the British might submit to us," said Sen. John G. Tower (R-Tex.).

He said "the perception of the United States as a dependable ally" and "the credibility of our leadership in NATO and the solidarity of the alliance itself" were at stake.

On Tuesday the House is expected to take up a similar resolution calling on the United States to provide "full diplomatic support" to the British if negotiations fail.

WASH. POST
APR 30 1982

Excerpts From Mrs. Thatcher's Talk

LONDON, April 29 (AP) — Following are excerpts from Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's speech today in the House of Commons:

The Government has taken every possible step that had a reasonable prospect of helping us to achieve our objectives — the withdrawal of the Argentine forces and the end of their illegal occupation of the islands; the restoration of British administration, and a long-term solution which is acceptable not only to the House but to the inhabitants of the Falkland Islands.

It is the Government's most earnest hope that we can achieve these objectives by a negotiated settlement.

But as the House knows, the Government has taken military measures as well to strengthen our diplomatic efforts.

Mr. Haig's initiative would never have got under way if the British Government had not sent the naval task force to the South Atlantic within four days of Argentina's aggression against the Falkland Islands.

Gentle Persuasion Unheeded

What incentive would there have been for the Argentine junta to give Mr. Haig's ideas more than the most cursory glance if Britain had not underpinned its search for a diplomatic settlement with the dispatch of the task force? Gentle persuasion is not going to make the Argentine Government give up what it has seized by force.

We shall enforce the total exclusion zone as completely as we have done the maritime exclusion zone. The Argentine occupying forces will then be totally isolated, cut off by sea and air.

On the diplomatic side, Mr. Haig has put forward formal American proposals to the Argentine Government and requested an early response. I stress the status of these proposals — they are official American proposals.

Mr. Haig judged it right to ask Argentina to give its decision first, as the country to whom Security Council Resolution 502 is principally addressed. Mr. Haig has also communicated to us the text of his proposals.

In Touch With Haig

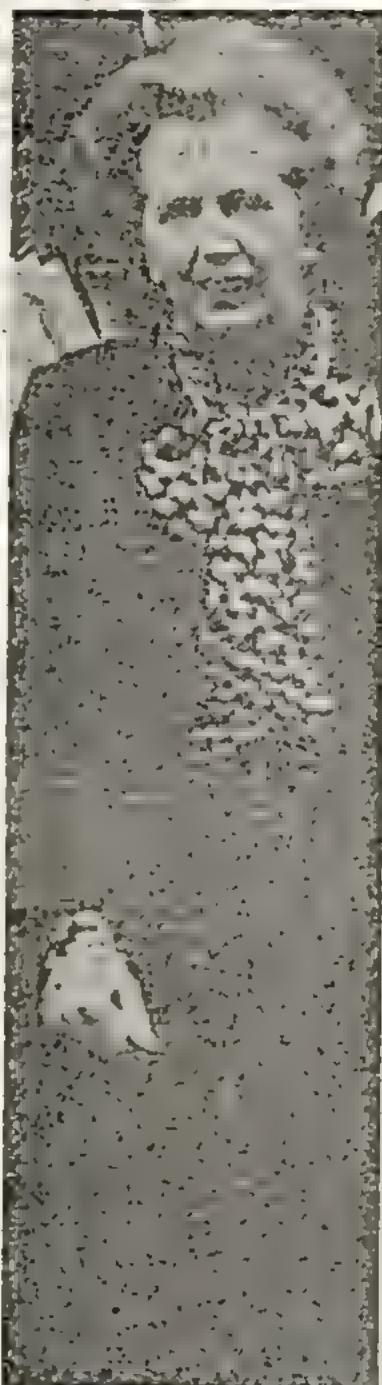
The proposals are complex and difficult and inevitably bear all the hallmarks of compromise in both their substance and language.

My right honorable friend the Foreign Secretary remains in close touch with Mr. Haig.

I very much regret that I am not in a position to say more today, but they are Mr. Haig's proposals, and he has put them first to the Argentine Government. It is the Argentine invasion which started this crisis, and it is Argentine withdrawal that must put an end to it.

It would be totally inconsistent to support the dispatch of the task force and yet to be opposed to its use. What is more, it would be highly dangerous to bluff in that way.

British servicemen and ships would be exposed to hostile action. Argen-



United Press International

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher on her way to Parliament for a regular weekly session.

time would doubt our determination and sense of purpose. The diplomatic pressure would be undermined.

As long as the Argentines refuse to comply with the Security Council resolution, we must continue to intensify the pressure on them. And we must not abandon our efforts to re-establish our authority over our own territory and to free our own people from the invader.

What could further recourse to the United Nations achieve at the present stage? If anyone can succeed in mediation, it is Mr. Haig.

Of course we support the United Nations and believe that respect for the United Nations should form the basis of international conduct. But the United Nations, alas, does not have the power to enforce compliance with its resolutions, as a number of aggressors well know.

Talks Must Have Promise

If at any time either the Secretary General or my right honorable friend thought that a meeting between the two of them would be likely to assist in achieving an acceptable solution, then I say to the House that my right honorable friend would of course go to New York straightaway.

The recapture of South Georgia has not diminished international support. No country that was previously with us has turned against us. The world has shown no inclination to condemn Britain's exercise of the right to self-defense.

There is no reason, given the past history of this question, for Britain, which has sovereignty and is claiming nothing more, to make the first move. It is Argentina that is making a claim. If she wanted to refer it to the International Court, we would consider the possibility very seriously.

U.S. Editors Protest Holding of 3 Britons

LOS ANGELES, April 29 (AP) — The American Society of Newspaper Editors has filed a protest with the Argentine Government over the detention of three British journalists on espionage charges.

In a telegram sent Wednesday to President Leopoldo Galtieri, the United States newspaper executives called the jailing of the journalists "a violation of the principles of conduct and law held in common by all civilized nations." It was reported in London Wednesday that the journalists had been denied bail.

The journalists are Ian Mather and Tony Prime, a writer-photographer team from The Observer, and Simon Winchester of The Sunday Times. All three have been accused of spying.

The telegram said that "journalists the world over must be permitted to carry out their professional tasks, as these three were doing, in freedom and safety." It added: "To charge professional journalists with espionage violates the principles of conduct and law held in common by all civilized nations. We urge the prompt release of Mr. Winchester, Mr. Prime and Mr. Mather."

The telegram was signed by Michael J. O'Neill, the newspaper society's president and editor of The Daily News; Anthony Day, chairman of the society's committee on international communication and editor of The Los Angeles Times editorial pages, and Seymour Topping, managing editor of The New York Times and vice chairman of the society's committee on international communication.

The New York Times

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ARTHUR HAYS SULZBERGER, Publisher 1935-1961

ORVILLE E. DRYFOOS, Publisher 1961-1963

ARTHUR OCHS SULZBERGER, Publisher

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Food Fight, Across the Atlantic

Who should export food? Countries like America, Argentina and New Zealand, say economists: places with fertile land, good weather and relatively few mouths should trade their agricultural surplus for manufactures from densely populated, resource-poor Europe and Japan.

That makes sense in theory, but even fine theory can be lost in battles over national agricultural policies. Japanese farmers bitterly resist imports of cheap meat and fruit. More important, politically powerful farmers have maneuvered the European Community into building surpluses of grain, sugar, dairy products and meat. Europe's attempts to dump those surpluses and cut back on imports of competing crops now threaten to create a serious backlash.

Part of the bargain struck to form the Common Market was a deal to protect the millions of small, inefficient farmers, most of them French, from income losses. Small farms would eventually disappear, the argument went; but in the meantime, politics and charity dictated that the financial burden be spread.

The number of farmers has indeed shrunk in the last few decades, but farm production has not. Nurtured by price supports, export subsidies and import barriers, European agriculture has become an economic and diplomatic embarrassment.

Export subsidies violate the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade, the international rules accepted by most non-Communist countries. Foreign competitors might legitimately ask for sanctions from the GATT organization. But most have chosen to avoid confrontation, seeking instead some common-sense understanding: Europe could continue

the subsidy policy, provided it did not invade markets traditionally dominated by other producers.

That informal understanding is apparently breaking down. Heavily subsidized European sugar is sweetening the world's soft drinks — and, in the process, pauperizing sugar exporters in Latin America and Asia. European butter, dried milk, chickens and beef are displacing sales by food producers in the developed countries. Most significant politically, Europe is threatening to impose a tariff on high-protein cereals from America that compete with European-produced animal feeds.

This threatened tariff could hardly come at a worse time. American farmers, hurt badly by high interest rates and low commodity prices, would certainly press for retaliation. And that would add another source of tension to a world trade system already strained by protectionism in autos, textiles, steel and aluminum.

An immediate crisis could be averted if the Common Market now rejects the new tariff idea. But unless the European Community changes agricultural direction, the problem is bound to arise soon again. Politicians simply cannot defy their farm lobbies; European unity is probably too fragile to stand the shock. The Community could, however, subsidize small farmers directly, rather than encouraging production through price supports.

Most countries coddle farmers; America tosses away billions on the production of sugar, milk and peanuts. But the trend since World War II has been toward increased international competition, competition that has allowed the great agricultural regions of the world to be properly exploited. It would be a tragedy if the strain of recession and low-commodity prices reversed a trend that has meant better and cheaper food for the world.

¿Dónde me Pongo?

Por Humberto Medrano

Argentina y Gran Bretaña son los antagonistas más visibles en el conflicto de las Malvinas. Pero es Estados Unidos el que empieza a perfilarse como perdedor. Es que Estados Unidos, como decía García Lorca, "está flotando entre equilibrios contrarios"

Mientras los ingleses y los argentinos no lleguen a las manos completamente Estados Unidos podrá mantener su papel de mediador imparcial. Claro que con las críticas que gana todo el que anda atajando pollos ajenos. Pero una vez que empiecen los porrazos es cuando el Tío Sam ha de vérselas negras para mantenerse imparcial o para inclinarse a uno u otro bando

En Estados Unidos y en otras plazas de análisis luce que este país no tendrá más remedio que manifestarse al lado de los ingleses. Según algunos analistas, por simple simpatía. Según otros, porque de no hacerlo y meterse el tiempo en agua para la Gran Bretaña, ello significaría la caída del gobierno de la Primera Ministra Thatcher, caída que Estados Unidos no puede permitirse el lujo de ver con los brazos cruzados. ¿Por qué? Porque con ningún otro gobierno que surgiera —y que podría ser del laborismo— tendría Estados Unidos las garantías de adhesión en los múltiples problemas que sacuden a Europa, empezando por la armonía de la OTAN.

Pero sea por una cosa u otra, la posición de Estados Unidos no es envidiable. Hay en la Casa Blanca quienes no piensan así. Ven la inclinación de Estados Unidos al lado de Inglaterra como algo natural. Y cuando se les pregunta qué diría este país a la Argentina contestan con cierto desdén que sólo tendría que decirle "lo siento". Pero ese no es el termómetro de la realidad. Porque Estados Unidos

tendría que decirle "lo siento" no sólo a la Argentina, sino a más de una docena de países latinoamericanos que están junto a Buenos Aires y contra la que ellos llaman la "pérfida Albión". Y no es fácil para Estados Unidos ni para cualquier país de su representación crear mayores ojerizas dentro de su propio hemisferio.

Pero ese es el caso. Y como los estadistas de esta nación no encuentren la cuadratura del círculo político, la posición de Norteamérica es sumamente incómoda. Porque para encontrarle una justificación a cualquier postura, van a tener que decidir dónde está la razón: si en la posición del hecho o la del derecho. Y de inclinarse a la primera, siempre quedaría flotando la interrogante de por qué la posesión de hecho de Gran Bretaña de las Malvinas ha de tener mayor predicamento que la soberanía de derecho de Argentina, cuando a lo largo y ancho de la discusión es del derecho de lo que se habla.

Yo estimo que el derecho está al lado de Argentina, aunque se haya considerado inoportuna su tan demorada invasión. Pero ya el problema no se resuelve con simples conjeturas. Ya se aboca el lenguaje de las armas. Y frente a este lenguaje ya no caminan las disquisiciones jurídicas. Y se hacen mucho más intensas y peligrosas las responsabilidades de tomar partido. Así, el conflicto puede agravarse con consecuencias incalculables. Y en el medio, el pobre Reagan que a lo que parece, como quiera que se ponga tiene que llorar.

(N. de R.) Este artículo fue entregado para su publicación, antes de que Estados Unidos diera su apoyo a la Gran Bretaña.

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Shock Therapy for Argentina

President Reagan's decisive tilt to Britain came just in time. With luck and more resourceful diplomacy, it may avert a tragic and pointless war over the Falklands.

Though probably forewarned, Argentine officials say they were "stupefied" by the announcement of American sanctions against their Government. Advertised or not, the shock therapy was plainly necessary to shake the junta from its trance. It seemed convinced throughout this month that its grab for the islands would be applauded by other hemisphere nations — and overlooked by the United States in gratitude for marginal help in El Salvador.

By now openly siding with Britain, and promising help in case of conflict, Mr. Reagan is belatedly catching up with American public opinion. Even as he declared against Argentina, Congress was moving quickly to urge that course.

There is a clear national consensus for the President's assertion that Argentina's armed aggression "must not be allowed to succeed." Argentina has only itself to blame for the loss of Mr. Reagan as an honest, outwardly neutral broker in the long attempt to save face all around.

For three distracting weeks, Secretary of State Haig gave the Royal Navy reason to proceed southward at a most deliberate speed. To no avail. Argentina would not withdraw its forces and accept an interim regime in the Falklands unless its aggression

were rewarded with a promise of permanent sovereignty.

The Argentines said their legal case was irrefutable, yet it could not be submitted to binding arbitration. Despite the Rio Pact's rejection of force as a diplomatic instrument, they tried to embarrass the United States by invoking it and Latin pride. The transparency of their game was obvious to most; even the Rio nations gave only ritual support.

Still, Mr. Haig's effort helped to define what the argument was really about and proved Washington's willingness to risk its prestige for peace. Even in finally siding with Britain, the Administration apparently bought another few days' time for diplomacy before the British escalate another notch.

With the pretense of American neutrality abandoned, it is the United Nations' turn to assume the tasks of mediation. Within hours of the invasion, the Security Council had demanded that Argentina withdraw from the Falklands. Let the Council now authorize Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, a Peruvian, to help Argentina withdraw under circumstances that guarantee continued negotiations but not the result.

The time for saving face has passed. The task now is to save Argentine and British lives from a controversy that should never have threatened any.

Viaja a EE.UU. el Canciller Británico

LONDRES, Mayo 1 (EFE)— El ministro británico de Asuntos Exteriores, Francis Pym, viajará hoy a los Estados Unidos, para mantener nuevas conversaciones en torno a la crisis de las islas Malvinas, tras el anuncio de Washington sobre sanciones contra Argentina.

El titular del "Foreign Office" se entrevistará en Washington con el secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig, pero esta vez su encuentro tendrá un carácter distinto al que tuvo cuando éste trataba de encontrar una solución a las diferencias entre Buenos Aires y Londres.

La decisión de Washington de ponerse al lado de Gran Bretaña en la histórica disputa de ésta con Argentina en torno a las Islas, ha sido recibida en Londres con evidente satisfacción.

Francis Pym ha advertido, sin embargo, que este nuevo elemento en el enfrentamiento anglo-argentino no modifica la determinación del gobierno de Londres de utilizar las armas si la Argentina intenta romper el bloqueo aéreo y naval impuesto, desde ayer, viernes, a las 11 GMT, alrededor de las Malvinas.

Asimismo, el jefe del "Foreign Office" dijo que la nueva posición asumida por la Administración Reagan no disminuye la posibilidad de que se produzca, en el sector austral del Atlántico sur, un choque armado.

Francis Pym habló, la pasada noche, a los habitantes de las islas Malvinas —a través del servicio exterior de la "BBCC"— y les señaló que no debían dar demasiado lugar al optimismo.

"Debo decirlos —afirmó el titular del "Foreign Office—, a pesar de lo desagradable que pueda ser, que eso (la acción militar) es, mucho me temo, muy probable".

Declara Trudeau que Canadá Está Próximo a Inglaterra en el Conflicto

Por J. DIEZ LAZARO

OTTAWA, Mayo 1 (EFE)— La posición canadiense sigue siendo "muy próxima" a la de Gran Bretaña en el conflicto del Archipiélago de Las Malvinas, declaró el primer ministro canadiense, Pierre Trudeau.

El jefe del gabinete liberal de Ottawa realizó esta manifestación, algunas horas después de hacerse público aquí el cambio de actitud que adoptaba Estados Unidos en la crisis argentino-británica.

Trudeau precisó que "Gran Bretaña debe resolver en los próximos años, el problema que suscita su soberanía sobre Las Malvinas, pero, en cualquier caso, el gobierno canadiense condena ahora, como ha condenado siempre, el recurso de Argentina a la fuerza para dilucidar cuestiones internacionales".

El Primer Ministro del Canadá, al explicar, una vez más, la similitud del boicot comercial contra Argentina que adoptó su gobierno con el que resolvió la Comunidad Económica Europea —restrictivos, pero no totales—, hubo de reiterar que la culminación de instalaciones del reactor nuclear "Candu" en Argentina no quedará interrumpida.

"Cuando se llevó a cabo el contrato de venta, Argentina suscribió todos los compromisos y garantías que exigía Canadá para impedir la utilización del "Candu" para fines bélicos, y no tenemos ninguna razón para creer que Argentina va a revisar sus compromisos".

Lloró el Canciller de Colombia al Regresar de Reunión en la OEA

BOGOTÁ, Mayo 1 (AFP).— El canciller colombiano Carlos Lemos Simmonds, lloró a su regreso de Washington en donde participó en la reunión del órgano de consulta de la OEA.

Lemos Simmonds se abstuvo en el órgano de consulta de la OEA de apoyar la aplicación del TIAR (Tratado de Asistencia Recíproca), solicitada por Argentina en su conflicto con Gran Bretaña por Las Malvinas.

"El TIAR no era aplicable en este caso", dijo Lemos Simmonds y reiteró que "Colombia no abandona sus posiciones jurídicas" y confió en que "el tiempo nos dará la razón".

"Nos queda el orgullo, a los colombianos, de que hemos mantenido una posición consecuente con nuestro régimen interno y con nuestra tradición política internacional", concluyó.

Lemos Simmonds dejó escapar lágrimas cuando encontró al presidente Julio César Turbay, quien en acto inusual lo recibió en el aeropuerto El Dorado a las 90 h 35 gmt, junto con otros cinco Ministros.

"Esto es lo más excepcional que ha podido ocurrirme", expresó conmovido Lemos Simmonds mientras se abrazaba a Turbay quien a su vez lo felicitó por la serena posición jurídica que adoptó en la OEA.

El llanto de Lemos Simmonds, de 49 años, quebró de emoción su voz cuando fue interrogado por una nube de periodistas.

Lemos sustentó la posición colombiana arguyendo que era imperante el no precipitar una acción bélica, mientras existieran esperanzas de un arreglo pacífico.

La conducta colombiana coincidió, en parte, con la adoptada por el secretario de Estado norteamericano, Alexander Haig, que advirtió que la OEA no era el lugar apropiado para considerar la situación en el Atlántico Sur.

Haig agregó que no era pertinente la aplicación de las disposiciones del Tratado Interamericano de Asistencia Recíproca. La reunión del órgano de consulta fue solicitada por Argentina al amparo de las estipulaciones del TIAR.

29 APR 82
US AFRICAF

Cree el Pentágono que es Difícil Conquistar las Islas Malvinas

Por RAFAEL RAMOS

WASHINGTON, Abril 28 (EFE).— Los expertos militares del Pentágono creen que, a pesar de los rumores de un inminente ataque inglés a las Malvinas, Gran Bretaña considera muy difícil recuperar el archipiélago en una operación militar.

Fuentes oficiales del Ministerio de Defensa norteamericano han comentado que Gran Bretaña tiene "muy limitadas sus opciones militares una vez reconquistadas las islas Georgias del Sur, donde las defensas argentinas eran escasas".

Los especialistas del Pentágono opinan que si bien los ingleses ejercen un dominio total del mar, la aviación argentina puede causar graves pérdidas a los británicos, y es capaz de impedir el éxito de un ataque frontal a las Malvinas.

En términos estratégicos, se requiere en teoría una superioridad en número de fuerzas de tres a uno para poder invadir una isla, aún en el supuesto de que las tropas invasoras estén mejor pertrechadas y entrenadas que las rivales.

En este caso, señalan los expertos norteamericanos, las fuerzas argentinas son superiores en número, y además cuentan con el apoyo de alrededor de un centenar de aviones-caza de fabricación francesa e israelí.

Esos cazas, que pueden operar desde dos frentes, el propio archipiélago en disputa y el continente americano, son considerados en conjunto por el Pentágono como superiores a los cuarenta aparatos "Harrier" ingleses.

Los estrategas del Ministerio de Defensa norteamericano opinan que los británicos ni siquiera podrían triunfar en un ataque frontal a las Malvinas usando los bombarderos "Vulcan" y los aviones de reconocimiento "Nimrod" desde la isla Ascensión, a pesar de que van armados con misiles.

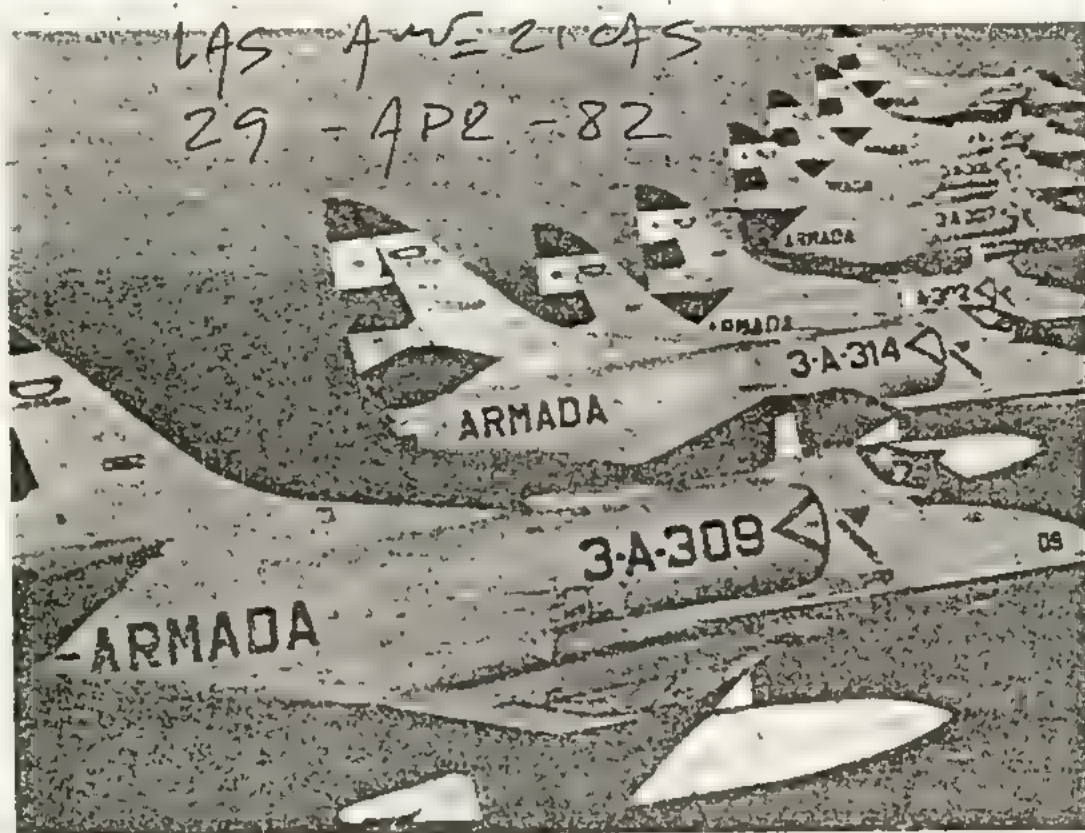
Muere Soldado Argentino Preso por los Ingleses en un Incidente

LONDRES, Abril 28 (UPI) — Uno de los 140 argentinos capturados en las islas Georgias del Sur el lunes murió como resultado de "un grave incidente", dijo hoy el Ministerio de Defensa.

"Hemos notificado esta mañana al gobierno de Brasil para que informe a las autoridades argentinas sobre un serio incidente que ocurrió el 26 de abril en las Georgias del Sur y en el que murió un prisionero argentino", dijo el Ministerio.

"Recién ahora hemos conocido el nombre del hombre que murió y no tenemos detalles completos", añadió.

"Se han dado instrucciones para que se convoque a una junta de investigaciones en las Georgias del Sur que considerará el caso y deliberará a la brevedad posible. Tanto la notificación a los brasileños como la convocatoria a una junta de investigación están estrictamente de acuerdo con la Tercera Convención de Ginebra", dijo el Ministerio.



Listos para el Combate

Si británicos y argentinos se enfrascan en una lucha por el control del aire en aguas de las islas Malvinas, la nación del Plata tendrá un gran factor de ventaja en estos aviones A-4 (Skyhawk) de manufactura americana que

son más veloces y de mayor radio de acción que los Harrier que forman la Fuerza Aérea británica embarcada en portaaviones. Los aviones de la foto pertenecen al arma aérea de la armada argentina. (Telefoto UPI)

Lista Argentina para Rechazar un Ataque

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 28 (UPI) — Argentina completaba ayer los preparativos de guerra para repeler un "inminente" ataque británico a sus posiciones en las islas Malvinas, según fuentes castrenses.

Las tropas fueron puestas en estado de alerta máximo en el litoral atlántico argentino, señalaron las fuentes.

Las autoridades militares dieron un plazo de 48 horas a los periodistas extranjeros para que abandonen el sur del país y se concentren en Buenos Aires.

El presidente Leopoldo Galtieri conversó telefónicamente con el canciller Nicanor Costa Méndez, que se encuentra en Washington, antes que el ministro denunciase ante la Organización de Estados Americanos que era "inmi-

nente" un ataque británico a las islas australes.

Según las últimas informaciones confirmadas por fuentes militares, más de 9.000 soldados se encontraban con "elevado espíritu de lucha" en las islas Malvinas, pero se descontaba en Buenos Aires que proseguía el envío de soldados y armas.

El Ministerio de Defensa anunció un severo control para la venta al exterior de carros blindados de combate, paracaídas, aparatos transmisores y receptores de radiotelefonía, además de una serie de minerales estratégicos como benceno y fulminato de mercurio.

Según fuentes militares, un centenar de comandos continúa en las islas Georgias del Sur, hostigando a las fuerzas británicas que las invadieron el domingo último, con bajas para ambos bandos.

Dilemas para Reagan

Por Mariano Grondona

BUENOS AIRES. (ALA). La difícil posición en la que se encontró el presidente Reagan ante el conflicto por las Islas Malvinas, al tener que optar entre dos naciones aliadas a las cuales, en distintas regiones del mundo, asigna importancia, fue un ejemplo concreto dentro de una tendencia general: los Estados Unidos de Reagan están revisando profundamente su sistema de alianzas y ya no dan por sentada la lista de prioridades del pasado.

Podría decirse que, en el pasado, Estados Unidos basaba su sistema de alianzas militares sobre la NATO y, dentro de ella, sobre el eje Londres-Bonn. Gran Bretaña era, después de todo, la madre patria, la aliada tradicional. Alemania era el lugar concreto, donde se estacionaban las tropas norteamericanas de cara frente a la amenaza de la URSS. América Latina resultaba, decididamente, un teatro secundario.

Las cosas han cambiado. En Europa, diversos observadores coinciden en subrayar la creciente desilusión de los Estados Unidos de Reagan ante lo que se interpreta como la actitud claudicante de los alemanes frente a la URSS. Tal como se vio en la crisis polaca, Alemania Occidental busca mantener la distensión con el Este a toda costa; el contrato para proveerse de gas soviético a través de un gigantesco gasoducto que ella misma construirá y financiará, pone a Alemania Occidental en una posición, si no próxima al neutralismo, ya no tan nitidamente en el campo occidental como en tiempos de Adenauer.

Por otra parte Gran Bretaña, pese a la firme adhesión de Margaret Thatcher a la alianza atlántica, ha ido perdiendo significación económica, política y militar en el curso de los años. Ocurre lo contrario con Francia, con un pie dentro y otro fuera de la NATO, cuyo esfuerzo bélico ha sido mucho más importante a partir de de Gaulle, y con España, considerada un bastión de retaguardia. En cierto modo, Francia y España tienden a ocupar en la mente de los norteamericanos un lugar de creciente importancia, en tanto la confiabilidad estratégica de Alemania Occidental y Gran Bretaña cede gradualmente.

Pero Europa como un todo, además, pierde importancia relativa ante la aparición de nuevos focos de interés. Reagan está desilusionado ante la falta de voluntad de lucha de los europeos respecto de la URSS. Mira entonces hacia otras latitudes. Un grupo de naciones que guardan pasos críticos o contienen reservas de recursos aumentan su importancia. Japón, por cierto, pero también China — pese al actual "enfriamiento" a causa de Taiwan — el propio Taiwan, Corea, Australia, Canadá, Sudáfrica, Argentina, son algunos de los nuevos nombres en la lista, y América Central, sin duda, un nuevo y central teatro de operaciones.

De ahí que Reagan haya hecho un máximo esfuerzo, buscando contactos telefónicos directos con Buenos Aires y Londres, para evitar la agudización del conflicto en las Malvinas. Hace algunos años, Estados Unidos habría favorecido netamente a Gran Bretaña; no hubieran cabido dudas al respecto. Ahora, si bien subsiste una inclinación en el mismo sentido, ella sucede a esfuerzos evidentes de mediación. Un riesgo suplementario para Washington es, por supuesto, que Moscú, "jugándose" por la posición argentina, obtenga en Buenos Aires una posición de prestigio e influencia.

Los años setenta han dejado su marca sobre el sistema internacional. Mientras los Estados Unidos de Carter compartían con Europa Occidental una actitud complaciente ante la proyección del poderío soviético, la alianza atlántica se mantenía en el centro de la perspectiva norteamericana en su condición de alianza en retroceso, en retirada. Desde el momento en que Estados Unidos resolvió confrontar con Reagan a la URSS, su visión del mundo, así como su lista de aliados preferentes, empezó a cambiar. La crisis de las Malvinas lo ha sorprendido en medio del cambio, cuando la nueva visión no había terminado de reemplazar a la antigua, poniéndolo en la delicada coyuntura de optar entre el Atlántico Norte y el Atlántico Sur. Que esa opción se haya planteado, que la opción no haya ocurrido automáticamente en favor del Norte, muestra hasta dónde ha evolucionado la situación internacional.

\$500 Millones le ha Costado a la Argentina Prepararse para Defenderse

BUENOS AIRES, Abril 24 (AFP).— El costo de una guerra entre Argentina y Gran Bretaña actuaría como catalizador de una crisis que llevaría a la actual generación de argentinos a aceptar sacrificios como jamás soportó anteriormente, opinaron analistas económicos.

La reconquista por tropas argentinas de las Islas Malvinas, Georgias y Sandwich del Sur, tras casi siglo y medio de control británico, ha cos-

tado hasta ahora 500 millones de dólares, según fuentes económicas oficiales pero fidedignas.

Observadores económicos no occultaron su preocupación, conscientes de que con lo que se tiene y con lo que falta, incluso con lo que sobra, el conflicto repercutirá en la economía del país, que soporta una crisis considerada por los expertos como la más grave de su historia.

Sin que el país haya padecido guerras en este siglo, la situación económico-financiera para un futuro inmediato se perfila como muy grave, insistieron los analistas, quienes destacaron el hecho de que Argentina ostentó en los últimos años la tasa de inflación más alta del mundo.

El prestigioso economista y político argentino Juan Carlos de Pablo reconoció en días pasados que uno de los recursos para pagar deudas de guerra —el más utilizado— es la inflación.

Para Alvaro Alsogaray, ideólogo de la economía de mercado y de la libre empresa, que fue dos veces ministro de Economía, dijo que si el conflicto argentino-británico por la soberanía de las Malvinas desemboca en una conflagración, se implantará una economía de guerra de corte dirigista cuyas características esenciales serán la inflación reprimida, el desabastecimiento y los controles de todo tipo.

Alsogaray dijo a la AFP que a su juicio casi no hay posibilidad de que en Argentina se organice una economía de guerra de acuerdo con los principios de la economía libre de mercado.

La mayor parte de los dirigentes políticos y sindicales proclamó la necesidad de revertir totalmente la política económica liberal de estos últimos años, por su fracaso, y entrar de lleno en una "economía de guerra".

Alsogaray opinó que "lo dramático es que tienen razón en cuanto a su crítica, aunque las soluciones que ellos proponen signifiquen terminar de destruir la economía".

Algunos Pequeños Progresos en las Negociaciones de Paz

LONDRES, Abril 24 (AFP).— La negociación sobre la crisis de las Islas Malvinas registró "algunos pequeños progresos", declaró hoy el canciller británico, Francis Pym, después de una entrevista de dos horas con la primer ministro, Margaret Thatcher.

El secretario del Foreign Office agregó que volverá a conferenciar con Thatcher "probablemente hoy mismo", antes de reunirse con "otros colegas".

UN MUERTO

LONDRES, Abril 24 (AFP).— El suboficial Kevin Stuart Casey, segundo ocupante de un helicóptero Sea King del porta-aviones "Hermes" que se precipitó ayer viernes al mar, fue la primera víctima de la expedición naval británica al Atlántico Sur.

Según informó el Ministerio de Defensa, el accidente se produjo en horas de la noche. El piloto del helicóptero pudo ser rescatado de las aguas.

Los Angeles Times

For Argentines, War Seems Closer Now

By DIAL TORGERSON, Times Staff Writer

BUENOS AIRES—War came a little closer to Buenos Aires on Saturday.

After almost a month of flag-waving and slogans, the *Portenos*—or “port people,” as citizens of this huge capital are called—awoke to find that bombs were falling in the South Atlantic.

Later, in front of the presidential palace, a few hundred people cheered and waved plastic versions of the blue-and-white national flag. But millions of others simply waited quietly for the news.

But late afternoon, when the government reported four British attacks in the islands that the Argentines call the Malvinas, it was sinking in: Argentina was headed for something serious.

The government's brief communiqués mentioned only six men wounded. On the streets, some people walked with transistor radios tuned to the news. But little was reported.

“Have you heard anything from London?” a middle-aged woman asked an American newsman in front of the Casa Rosada, the dirty-

pink, 19th-Century edifice that is this country's center of government. “Did the British say they killed anyone?”

Thousands of families have men in the places where the British were attacking, and it was the longest day for them. Ten men died Friday in the crash of a military helicopter in Argentina's Patagonia region. The campaign for the Malvinas was starting to take its toll on a nation that has not fought a war since 1870.

But if anyone on the streets of Buenos Aires had a change of heart about the immensely popular April 2 invasion of the islands, it was not mentioned aloud. Those favoring Argentina's takeover spoke loudest.

“The British might win,” said Patricio Garrahan, a scientist who studied two years at Britain's Cambridge University. “They have the power. But they will lose, in the end, because of the reaction of the Spanish-speaking world against their acts.”

“Their whole posture has been ridiculous. The British, who so elegantly gave away so many possessions, are fighting to hold on to

something they don't want and don't need. It is their fault. They ignored the islands, in 17 years of negotiations, as if they thought they'd disappear.”

A poll by the Gallup Institute of Argentina reported Saturday that 90% of Argentines agree that the Malvinas should be defended by force, if necessary, and that 82% believe that Argentina should refuse to negotiate with Britain on the issue of sovereignty. Argentines say the British took the islands from Argentina by force in 1833.

At the Obelisk, a towering monument in the Plaza of the Republic, a grassy mall in Buenos Aires' downtown area, students trucked in from the suburban University of Moron staged a demonstration in favor of “national sovereignty.”

A gray-haired chauffeur, originally Italian, spoke quietly where he could not be overheard.

“I was in the war in Spain for three years and the war in Europe for six. Those who cheer have seen no war. In wars, both sides must lose. And what are we fighting over? A piece of rock in the sea.”

ANGELUS TIMES

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Reagan Calls Raids a Surprise, Urges Peace

By JOHN M. GOSHKO, *the Washington Post*

WASHINGTON—President Reagan and other Administration officials said Saturday that Britain's air attack on the Falkland Islands was "a complete surprise" to the United States, adding that they hope that the British-Argentine dispute can be resolved without widened warfare.

Reagan, talking with reporters as he began a trip to the opening of the World's Fair in Knoxville, Tenn., said he doesn't believe that full-scale hostilities "necessarily have to follow." He added: "We still stand ready to help. We hope there can be a peaceful solution."

The President's comments came a day after he ended the U.S. evenhanded approach to the dispute by accusing Argentina of "armed aggression," imposing military and economic sanctions against the military regime in Buenos Aires and promising to give material support to Britain.

No Requests for Material

At the Defense Department, officials said no formal requests for aid have been received from the British, but that a call for fuel and logistical help appears inevitable because the British fleet in the South Atlantic is operating 8,000 miles from home.

There have been published reports that Britain can sustain its warships for 90 days with the fuel, food, spare parts and ammunition already with its support ships.

Meanwhile, British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym was en route to Washington for a meeting this morning with Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. before going on for further talks at the United Nations on the crisis.

At the United Nations, Argentina complained to the Security Council about Britain's air attacks but did not ask for action by the U.N. body.

THE WORST thing that could happen in the Falklands would be the sinking of the British fleet. But just about the next worst thing would be for Britain to get the islands back. We do not want to lose, but, if the islands are the only prize of victory, we hardly want to win either. As brave men prepare to fight to the death, it is worth remembering that this must be the first war in history for territory which one combatant wanted—and still wants—to donate to the other.

The evidence for this is plentiful, yet nowadays it tends to be forgotten. To take only the two most recent efforts, Mr Ted Rowlands tried to do the trick for the Labour government in 1977, and Mr Nicholas Ridley for the Tories in 1980.

Both these ministers trailed up and down the Americas trying to find a way to give the islands up. This was long perceived as the British interest, and some acts of surrender had already been accomplished. Communications and air transport were put exclusively in Argentinian hands. A still more potent emblem of sovereign independence—control of entry and exit permits—was handed over in 1976, one of Mr Callaghan's last acts as foreign secretary.

Mr Rowlands and Mr Ridley, in their turn, played with many different form-

ulae for the critical matter of sovereignty. They were under brief to disembarass Britain of a responsibility she did not want, got nothing out of, and could not ultimately fulfil.

The Falklands, in other words, were not like other dependencies, such as Gibraltar or Hong Kong. They had no strategic or commercial value of any kind. Still less were they like the Orkneys or the Hebrides: they were remote and scattered islands, yet in no real sense part of British territory.

Many sensible people of all parties, therefore, wanted Britain out of the Falklands. Yet it is for this dubious and unwanted patrimony that we are now on the brink of war. The reason, of course, is the element missed out of this account: the wishes of the Falklanders. All the same, the size of Britain's U-turn should not be forgotten.

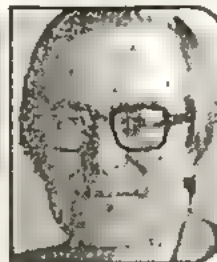
THIS PARADOX is relevant to the matter of culpability. Labour leaders are, at one level, right to be thirsting for scapegoats. The Carrington Foreign Office committed an enormous blunder, by fatally misjudging Argentinian intentions. For whatever reason, they simply got the matter altogether wrong.

On the night he resigned,

Where is thy victory?

Inside Politics

by HUGO YOUNG
Political Editor



Lord Carrington offered a convoluted piece of self-defence. He claimed that while he had clearly been wrong, he had not actually made a mistake. Given the information he had, his judgment had been reasonable. But this will not do. The road to political oblivion is paved, and rightly, with reasonable judgments which happen to have been wrong.

Lord Carrington, in short, overlooked the Callaghan rule about foreign policy. Mr Callaghan made a very unhelpful speech a couple of weeks ago, but, when in office, he never forgot that the specks on the horizon were always more dangerous politically than the ongoing state of the world. Berlin and the Common Market were predictable. Belize and Denis Hills, Amin's prisoner in Uganda, caused terrible trouble. Applying this principle to the Falklands and sending his own little task force in 1977, Mr Callaghan

created the perfect political event: a crisis met so adeptly that no one ever heard of it.

All this can be nailed against the Tory Foreign Office. Charges of bad judgment will be impossible to deflect. Even the odd guilty diplomat may be lined up beside the retired ministers.

But the Foreign office is not alone. It is only the proximate cause of the bind we are in. The remoter, deeper cause lies in Parliament itself. If diplomats stand condemned by the mere results of what they did or did not do, so do the Commons and the Lords.

For who was doing what in the 1970s? The Foreign Office, clearly, had a policy for getting out. This was not the sinister concoction of appeasing mandarins but was based in pragmatism. It seems to have been fully endorsed, as an objective, by the ministers of both parties. And we now see, with fearful clarity, why it was right. It was designed to relieve us of

a commitment we could not defend except by disturbing our entire foreign, defence and economic policies.

Who prevented this policy from making any headway? Certainly the islanders were a critical obstacle. But they could never have done it without the help of the British Parliament, orchestrated by a handful of MPs who, every time the Foreign Office made the smallest progress towards its objective, rallied the House to forestall what they represented as a crime against humanity.

They did this by plainly misrepresenting the issue. Again, this can be seen more clearly now than it was then. But it was, nonetheless, the real issue then as well as now: namely, whether Britain any longer had the will, the means or the interest to protect its Falklands sovereignty, in perpetuity, for the benefit of a declining population, against a serious attack.

People like Sir Bernard Braine—wholly well-intentioned in his abhorrence of Argentina—have, in my view, a lot to answer for. Instead of using their influence to obtain a good deal for the Falklanders, they deluded them into supposing that Britain would never allow change to occur, and could make this pledge stick.

Nor is that the end of the myopia. Labour MPs who helped make a Falklands deal impossible happily voted for defence cuts that made a Falklands defence impossible.

Conservative MPs who now insist on "victory" have voted for a defence budget which would make the implications of victory—i.e., permanent occupation of the islands—totally impractical.

WHAT WE NOW see are the consequences of a lack of any foresight appropriate to the risk: the product of a stubborn group of blinkered MPs, committed to a principle they had no means of enforcing, whom no minister had the muscle, the time or the will to overcome. All this may have been understandable at the time. The unalterable point is that it has turned out to be tragically and culpably mistaken.

As a result we are now setting out to fight—but not for the Falklands, which we do not want and will be happy, in any deal, to trade away. We are fighting, on the worst ground, for an abstract principle. This principle—that aggressors must not win—is good. I hope we establish it, by diplomacy and sanctions, backed by the threat of the fleet. But in striking the compromise, it is surely important to remember that the land itself we did not want to keep.

Argentines Skeptical of U.S. Plan to Avert War

By KENNETH FREED, Times Staff Writer

BUENOS AIRES—An American compromise proposal to stave off full-scale war between Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands was received skeptically Wednesday by both government and diplomatic sources here.

"The operative word is pessimism," a Foreign Ministry source said, a sentiment echoed by diplomats close to the negotiations.

The Argentine source said that while the U.S. plan has not yet been formally rejected, "there is little in it to make us think it could be acceptable."

Given the pessimistic reception of the proposal, this source said "I doubt that Argentina will invite (Secretary of State Alexander M.) Haig to come to Buenos Aires."

Haig Ready to Travel

State Department spokesman Dean Fischer said earlier in Washington that Haig is prepared to return to the Argentine capital to explain the U.S. plan directly to the three-man military junta that rules the country.

Diplomats in Buenos Aires agreed with the Foreign Ministry's negative assessment, one advising a reporter "to go hard with the pessimism angle."

The darkened sentiment reflected the proposal's apparent failure to bridge the gap between Argentine demands for immediate recognition of its sovereignty over the islands and British contentions that its ad-

ministration be restored and the 1,800 residents be given the right of self-determination.

Although the exact contents of the proposal, described here as "a very long, legalistic document," have not been disclosed, Argentine sources said those were the two key sticking points.

'Self-Determination'

a provision for "respecting the rights of the islanders to self-determination" was apparently written into the proposal under pressure from London, a section the Argentines described as infringing on the rights of sovereignty.

"We have said the rights of the (English) people on the Malvinas Falklands will be respected and their traditions and ways of life protected," the Argentine source stated, "and there is no need to write that into any agreement."

The pessimistic atmosphere closed a day of elevator-like reactions here to events in Washington and London—one minute up, the next minute down.

An Argentine source also put a relatively positive reading on the British announcement of an air-sea blockade of the islands, as of Friday.

He claimed that the "total" blockade would not be much different from the naval blockade in force since April 12, which he said was not strictly enforced.

But whatever degree of optimism that existed had melted by late afternoon.

For the Record

From a statement by Sen. Charles Mathias (R-Md.) on the Senate floor.

The United States is torn by conflicting imperatives in the dispute between Great Britain and Argentina over the Falkland Islands. On the one hand, we seek to retain the friendship of both countries. A negotiated settlement of the dispute offers hope of facilitating such an end. We have successfully contributed to the resolution of conflicts and potential conflicts between other countries in other regions of the world, so it is proper that we try now.

However, we run risks in attempting to maintain an "evenhanded" position in this dispute. These may become unmanageable if we devote too much attention to diplomatic tactics and too little attention to the implementation of a comprehensive strategy.

Our current approach should be evaluated against the following considerations:

- Argentina used force to carry out its claim to sovereignty over the Falkland Islands.
- Great Britain is one of our oldest and most valued allies. Argentina has, as yet, demonstrated no equivalent claim on our friendship.
- We remain committed to the principle of self-determination in the case of territorial disputes. That principle has been ignored by Argentina in this instance.

Thus, important principles with respect to our conduct of international affairs are at stake in this dispute—loyalty to allies, peaceful settlement of disputes and support of self-determination of peoples. They all argue for Great Britain's position in this affair.

Both Sides Try to Influence Reports of Combat

By STEVEN RATNER

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 3 — From the first shot in the fighting between Britain and Argentina in the South Atlantic, each side has in its own way tried to influence the news reports emanating from the battle area.

Throughout the crisis, which began with Argentina seizing the islands on April 2, the reports to the press in Argentina have exaggerated the extent of British setbacks while discounting Argentine losses. For their part, the British have sometimes left misleading impressions and have appeared reticent to

correct erroneous information.

For example, on Sunday, Argentina claimed to have shot down as many as 11 British Harrier planes. But British correspondents aboard the aircraft carrier *Hermes* counted the planes as they left and as each returned.

On Sunday as well, Argentine officials contended that the *Hermes* had been attacked and was on fire and listing. Peter Archer of the Press Association reported a few hours later: "I am on board *Hermes*. It is not on fire and it is clearly not listing."

Earlier, during the retaking of South Georgia, Argentina claimed to have

"bombed, mined and sunk" the *Exeter*, a British naval vessel that turned out not to have been involved in any military action. Similarly, Argentina asserted that resistance was continuing on the barren island long after the last Argentine soldier had surrendered.

In contrast, British military spokesmen have been almost reticent in their accounts, attributing this to secrecy considerations and the need to be sure all officially released information was accurate. As a result, none of the official British statements has yet proved wrong in any material respect.

"They are fully authentic," a spokes-

man said today. "You can be sure that our reports are true and as complete as we can make them."

During the crisis, in matters not directly relating to combat operations and casualties, the British officials have sometimes left misleading impressions through their custom of implanting ideas during off-the-record briefings, so that the ideas will appear without any attribution to particular sources. Similar confusion has resulted from the secrecy imposed on the British correspondents traveling with the fleet.

Perhaps the most notable example occurred at the outset of the crisis when as a result of a background briefing, journalists reported the presence in the South Atlantic of the *Superb*, a nuclear-powered submarine. Those reports continued for 22 days, until the *Superb* was

sighted at the Scottish submarine base of Faslane.

As for fleet censorship, the result has not been any lack of accuracy but a suggestive lack of completeness. For example, correspondents traveling on the *Canberra*, a cruise liner pressed into service as a troop carrier, did not report having reached Ascension Island until they had left it.

The reports by journalists with the fleet, which have also proved accurate in every important respect, have not preceded official accounts and have gone beyond ministry statements only in bits of color and in reporting unconfirmed Argentine casualties. In the wake of widespread unhappiness about the exaggerations contained in Argentine reports, British officials have

begun relaxing censorship of these correspondents.

For example, Mr. Archer of the Press Association reported today that Rear Adm. John F. Woodward, the task force commander, had told journalists on the *Hermes* that they could freely report any British casualties that occurred.

And as part of the effort to refute Argentine reports that only minor damage had been inflicted, British reporters on the *Hermes* were today today shown aerial reconnaissance photographs of the Falkland Islands airport at Stanley showing the damage that resulted from the British raid there. A spokesman for the Ministry of Defense said the photographs would be released in London as soon as possible.

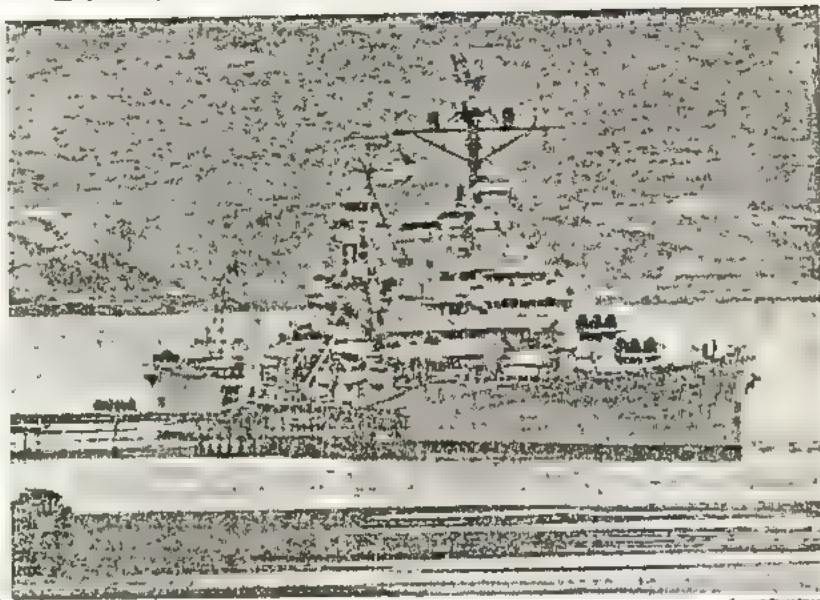
Patented Saturday in Business Day

New York Times

—NEW YORK, TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1982—

30 CENTS

TORPEDOED ARGENTINE CRUISER CARRYING 800 IS REPORTED SUNK; NAVY SAYS IT SPOTS 20 LIFEBOATS



The General Belgrano, reported to have been sunk, refueling early last week in Ushuaia in southern Argentina.

2D SHIP SAID TO SINK

Britain Reports Attack — Queen Elizabeth II to Be Used for Troops

By R. W. APPLE JR.

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 3 — British military sources said tonight that they believed the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano had sunk in the South Atlantic after it was hit on Sunday by two torpedoes fired by a British submarine.

In Buenos Aires, the Argentine high command said in a communiqué that the ship, which carried a crew of 900 men, "is presumed to have sunk." The Government said that more than 20 lifeboats had been sighted but that there were probably "many lost" on the ship, the second largest in the Argentine navy.

The British gave no word of survivors, although both countries reported that several Argentine frigates had moved to the General Belgrano's aid after the attack. Those might have been able to take off crewmen despite icy weather and high seas.

A senior British officer said that no reconnaissance pictures of the vessel's sinking were available, but he and other officials said they considered it highly unlikely that the 43-year-old American-built ship, which survived the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor, could have withstood two direct hits below her waterline.

New Clash Is Reported

Several hours after the cruiser was hit, the Ministry of Defense reported that missile-firing British helicopters had sunk an Argentine patrol vessel and damaged another ship early this morning in a clash off the Falkland Islands.

The ministry said that two Lynx helicopters had struck after the patrol craft opened fired with machine guns on a British Sea King helicopter inside the 200-mile blockade zone in the South Atlantic. There was no word on whether survivors had been picked up, but the British said that they had dropped life-saving gear into the sea.

But it was the presumed sinking of the 13,645-ton General Belgrano, possibly with a considerable loss of life, that brought the dispute over the remote, windswept Falklands to a critical intensity.

A Threat to Our Men

Officially, the Ministry of Defense said only that the cruiser had been "severely damaged." Dispatches from the flagship of the British task force, H.M.S. Hermes, said the nuclear hunter-killer submarine Conqueror had torpedoed the General Belgrano as she maneuvered along the fringes of the British blockade zone.

At a news conference tonight, John Nott, the Defense Minister, defended the attack on the cruiser even though it was outside the forbidden area. He told reporters, "our first duty is to protect our men, the General Belgrano was a

MANY ARGENTINES ARE ASSUMED LOST

The General Belgrano Was Hit Twice Below Water Line

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, May 3 — The Argentine Government announced today that some survivors from its only cruiser, which it presumed to have sunk after a torpedo attack by a British submarine on Sunday, had been sighted in lifeboats.

An Argentine Navy spokesman said, however, that many sailors had probably been lost.

[At the United Nations, The Associated Press reported that Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar told the Security Council that Argentina had said the ship was sunk and that 300 were presumed dead, according to Jeanne J. Kirkpatrick, the chief United States delegate.]

Cruiser Carried 800 Sailors

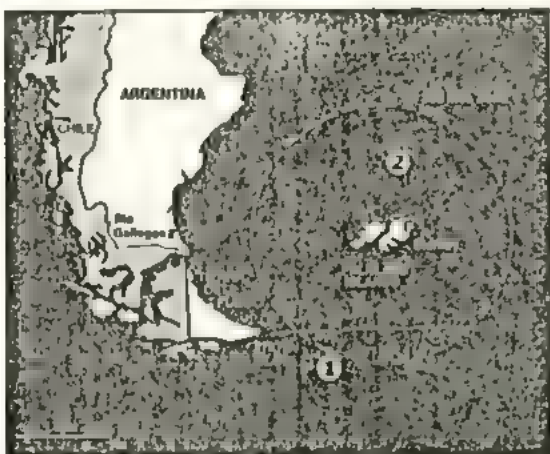
The Argentine Navy spokesman said that there had been 800 sailors aboard the cruiser, the General Belgrano, and that "more than 20 lifeboats" had been sighted by a navy plane. Each lifeboat can carry 20 to 25 people.

The cruiser, the second largest Argentine warship behind the aircraft carrier 25th of May, came under British attack Sunday south southwest of the Falklands, just outside the 200-mile blockade zone imposed around the islands by Britain. British reports said

Continued on Page A20, Column 1

Continued on Page A19, Column 2

Crisis in the Falklands: For a British Brigade, the Best



Argentine cruiser, torpedoed on edge of blockade zone (1), was reported sunk. An Argentine patrol craft was sunk in closer attack within zone (2).

Argentina Says It Presumes Many Sailors Have Been Lost

Continued From Page A1

the cruiser had been hit by two torpedoes below the water line.

An Argentine Foreign Ministry official, meanwhile, said the ruling junta was considering asking Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar of the United Nations to intervene as a mediator in the crisis, which began with Argentina's seizure of the Falklands on April 2.

The junta, however, was described as continuing to insist, despite the increasing British military pressure, that they would agree to nothing less than guaranteed sovereignty over the Falklands in any negotiated settlement.

The Argentine announcement of the presumed sinking of the General Belgrano came in a one-paragraph communique.

"The Joint Chiefs of Staff announce," it said, "that as a result of the attack suffered by the cruiser General Belgrano at 35 degrees 34 minutes south latitude and 61 degrees 21 minutes west longitude, reported in Communiqué 15, indications exist to make us presume it sunk."

The sighting of survivors was later announced in a separate Government statement.

The General Belgrano, once the United States Cruiser Phoenix, was commissioned in 1909 and was a survivor of the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. It was sold to Argentina in 1975.

Torpedoing Initially Denied

At first, Argentina denied that the ship had been torpedoed, saying on Sunday six hours after Britain announced the torpedoing, that such a statement was a lie. This morning, however, the Joint Chiefs issued a communique acknowledging that the General Belgrano had been hit, saying nothing further until this evening.

Western military sources said that two weeks ago when the bulk of the Argentine fleet sailed out of the Puerto Belgrano naval base, 600 miles south of Buenos Aires, the cruiser was left behind because it was in poor condition.

When torpedoed, the ship was apparently alone. British defense spokesmen said the cruiser was attacked because it presented a threat to the British task force. According to Jane's Fighting Ships, a standard reference book, the cruiser was armed with Seacat surface-to-air missiles, 16 six-inch guns, 8 five-inch guns and 240-millimeter guns.

In other developments, Argentina's official press agency, Telam, the only news organization with a correspondent in the Falklands, said tonight that British helicopter fire had killed 11 civilians and wounded 17 others in a raid Saturday on Darwin, a sheep farming community in the center of the archipelago. There was no independent confirmation of this report.

The agency, which has distributed unconfirmed reports since the first British attack on Saturday, did not explain why this dispatch had been delayed for two days.

QE2 Is Taken As Troopship By the British

By WILLIAM BORDERS

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 3 — The Queen Elizabeth 2, one of the world's most elegant and luxurious ocean liners, has been commandeered by the British Navy to take troops to the South Atlantic.

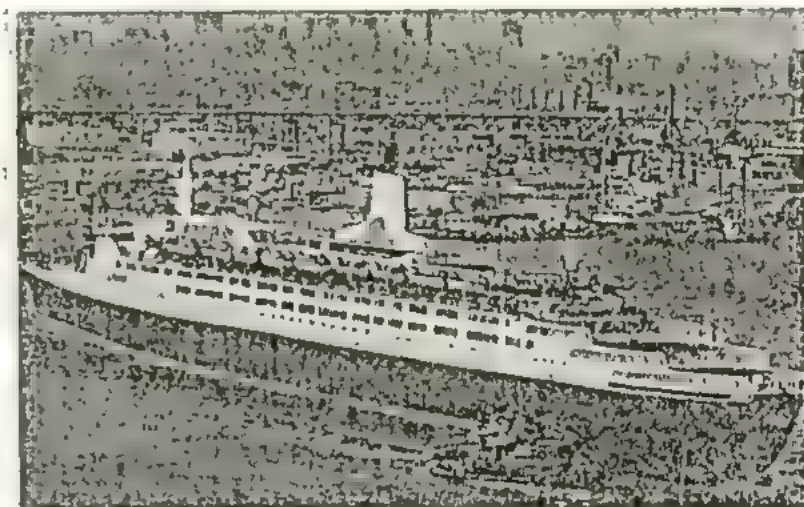
The ship, which has seven cocktail bars, four swimming pools and a casino, among other amenities, will be taken over Tuesday, when she is due to arrive in Southampton from the United States. Military modifications to the vessel will begin immediately, and her schedule of regular crossings and cruises has been suspended.

"Of course we greatly regret the inconvenience caused to intending passengers," a Defense Ministry spokesman said. "But the QE2's speed, size and facilities make her uniquely suited to carry a substantial number of troops, who must be kept fit and ready for operations should they be required."

The ship, the flagship of the Cunard Line, is expected to transport the Fifth Infantry Brigade and support units, a total of about 4,000 men. They would presumably form the British garrison on the Falklands should the islands be recaptured by the task force now in the South Atlantic. The ministry statement said.

"This action is being taken because it is only prudent when contemplating operations of whatever kind so far from the U.K. to have reserves available over the theater."

Like many aspects of the continuing



The Queen Elizabeth 2, commandeered by British Government to carry troops, last week in Philadelphia.

military confrontation between Britain and Argentina, the commandeering of the QE2 recalled World War II, when a number of ocean liners, including the old Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mary, were pressed into service as troop carriers.

Described by Cunard as "the greatest ship in the world," the QE2 has accommodations for 1,800 passengers and a crew of 1,000. She was due to leave Tuesday on a 13-day Mediterranean cruise, and many of the vacationers booked on her were already in South-

ampton tonight.

One, a Scottish woman named Margaret Stewart, who had paid \$2,000 for her cruise ticket, said in disappointment: "It's all rather a shock. I shall just go home."

Miss Stewart was particularly unhappy because a cruise she was to have taken aboard the liner Cariberra was canceled when the British requisitioned the vessel for the Falklands crisis last month.

No sailing date has been set for the QE2, and if the hostilities and men-

there remained the possibility that she would not be used by the Navy after all. The major modification needed for the ship is the addition of a helicopter landing pad, and some kind of guns are expected to be fitted on the decks, where the usual activity is deck chairs, shuffleboard, or basking in the sun with a good book.

The 803-foot, 67,300-ton liner can travel at 26 1/2 knots. Her master, Captain Alexander Hutchison, estimated that it would take 10 days to get to the South Atlantic.

The authoritative La Nación, a Buenos Aires daily close to the Government, said in a front-page article this morning that the plan was also rejected because its call for an immediate ceasefire would give the British time to reinforce.

The local press, under strict Government self-censorship guidelines, has mostly ignored British accounts of the battle for the Falklands, or reported only fleeting details. Many of the accounts have been contradictory.

The joint military command reduced its earlier claim of five British planes

shot down to two in a communique Sunday night.

Foreign and some national reporters have demanded proof of the Argentine statements, including the name of the captured British pilot whom military spokesmen insist is being held prisoner on the Falklands. By tonight, no proof had yet been offered.

In the day's diplomatic developments, President Leopoldo Galtieri dispatched two key military aides to Peru, reportedly to explain Argentina's rejection early this morning of a United States peace proposal that had been relayed through the Peruvian President, Fernando Belaúnde Terry. The two aides were Gen. Hector Iglesias, the presidency's Secretary General, and Adm. Roberto Moya, the head of the President's military staff.

A communique released by Rodolfo Baldrerrez, secretary of public information, said the plan was essentially the same as the previous plan put forward by the United States, one that Argentina found unsatisfactory April 27. That proposal reportedly called for the withdrawal of military forces from the Falklands and the establishment of a joint British-Argentine administration for the islands pending negotiation of their status.

"A new aggression by the British Government is added to this situation through the attack launched against the cruiser Belgrano," today's statement said.

Crisis in the Falklands: A Contest of Helicopters and Missiles

British Fault Their Foe
On Handling of MissilesBy DREW MIDDLETON
Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 3 — With Britain again making successful use of the helicopter as a weapon against Argentine naval vessels, British naval sources say the Argentines have shown a significant lack of understanding of the power and accuracy of air launched missiles.

Military Analysts One British source said that the Argentines "have the weapons" but that they had clearly "not done enough training under simulated combat conditions."

These comments came today after British Lynx helicopters had fired air-to-surface Sea Skua missiles at two Argentine patrol boats operating, according to the British Ministry of Defense, about 90 miles inside the 200-mile blockade zone around the Falkland Islands. One patrol boat was sunk, the ministry reported, and the other was damaged.

The attack came after the patrol vessels had opened fire with machine guns at a British Sea King helicopter that was patrolling ahead of the main British fleet. The aircraft is based on the British flagship, the carrier Hermes.

Eight days ago, other British helicopters, firing missiles and machine guns, attacked the Argentine submarine Santa Fe, which had surfaced off the island of South Georgia. The submarine was disabled and driven ashore.

Weapon Against Surface Ships

Military analysts here said the emergence of the helicopter as a successful weapon against vessels on the surface constituted the first tactical surprise of the fighting in the South Atlantic.

The air-sea war thus far has been

have been possible had they been operating without refueling.

Argentine pilots, analysts said, also appear to have little knowledge of the range and lethality of the Sea Cat and Sea Stag surface-to-air missiles carried by many of the British surface ships.

Size of Landing Force

According to military sources, the task force is accompanied by 3,000 to 4,500 Marines and airborne troops. This force, they said, is adequate for widely scattered landings intended to mop up isolated units of the Argentine garrison but inadequate for a major operation against the main Argentine positions around Stanley, the Falklands' capital.

The informants said that the British Government probably decided today to requisition the heavy liner Queen Elizabeth 2 because of the realization that more troops might be needed for that sort of attack.

The ship can carry a 3,000-strong brigade of infantry and the additional artillery, engineer and command elements that would be required to establish superiority on the ground against elements of an Argentine garrison that is variously estimated at between 6,000 and 10,000 troops.

Originally the brigade was described as an occupation force to be installed after the Argentine forces departed.

If the present sea and air blockade fails to bring about Argentine evacuation, it is likely, the military sources said, that there will be major landings, most probably among the many islands north and south of Stanley.



Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher arriving at 10 Downing Street.

Britain Says Attack by Submarine
Probably Sank Argentine Cruiser

Continued From Page A1

direct to our men and therefore it was quite correct that it was attacked." He did not specify exactly what threat the vessel posed.

Asked whether the intention had been to sink the cruiser, a ministry spokesman replied, "My understanding is that if a shot is fired the shot is fired to sink."

The Government also announced that it had requisitioned the 60,000-ton luxury liner Queen Elizabeth 2. The big flagship of the Cunard Line is to carry to the combat zone a 3,000-man infantry brigade that has been training in Wales.

Three other vessels were commandeered — the container ship Atlantic Conveyor and two ferries.

British officials said they could not rule out the possibility of an early invasion of the Falklands, which had been expected this weekend. But it was not clear whether this meant an attack was actually imminent or whether the statement represented part of the continuing campaign of psychological warfare.

Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, returned tonight from the United States, where he said that Argentina "started this war" and that Britain in-

stance tight naval blockade around the islands of the Argentine junta. But Mr. Nott reaffirmed at his news conference that Britain would continue to seek a peaceful settlement. He said that military pressure was not an end in itself and pledged that force would be applied with maximum possible restraint.

Mr. Nott agreed with a questioner that most laymen would say that Britain and Argentina were now at war. The line commander was indeed "engaged in hostilities," he added, but because London was acting in self-defense under the United Nations Charter the conflict was "not in legal terms a war."

Meanwhile, Denis Healey, the foreign policy spokesman for the opposition Labour Party, issued a new appeal for United Nations mediation, which the Government is unlikely to request. And Michael Foot, the party's leader, said he had turned down Mrs. Thatcher's offer of private consultations because he thought discussions of Government policy should take place in public before the entire House of Commons.

The General Belgrano, which was commissioned as the Argentine cruiser Shorncliffe in 1939, was well outside the blockade zone when attacked, the Defense Ministry asserted. Armed with 18 6-in.-inch guns, she had been operating the southern edge of the zone for 8 days, reports from the ocean said. She was near the Isla de Los Franceses, 30 miles southwest of the Falklands. The Tigerfish long-range torpedoes found their target at New York time.

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Reagan's Aims and the Argentines: A Blossoming Friendship Ends Abruptly

A Drawn-Out Struggle Could Exact Big Toll on Ties With Latin America

By BARBARA CROSSETTE
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 3 — A drawn-out struggle for the Falkland Islands could exact a toll on United States relations with Argentina and other Latin American nations, policy analysts both in and out of Government believe.

The battle for the Falklands is often portrayed in Europe as the defense by its democratic nation of its land and citizens against a military dictatorship. The complexities of the Latin American response to the crisis, by comparison, give some indication of how difficult it is to predict the extent of any damage to later American relations.

Despite differences over policy, many analysts in Washington agree that the emotion felt by Latin Americans over the Falklands, which they call the Malvinas, cannot be overestimated and that the United States will have to take that into account in any final settlement.

Support From All Sides

The United States has not publicly supported Argentina's claim to sovereignty over the islands, which has the backing of all Latin American nations, even those who most strenuously disagree with Argentina's use of force. Argentina has garnered support on the sovereignty issue from left and right at home and among nations as different as Nicaragua and Venezuela.

"It is an issue that reverberates in the recesses of the soul," said Arthur Slat, staff director for the Southern South American region at the Washington Office on Latin America, a policy group supported by American churches. Mr. Slat spent 11 years as a Roman Catholic missionary in South America.

Some analysts say that if the struggle is protracted or the United States gives

substantial assistance to Britain, Washington is likely to be seen again as the northern giant acting against a Latin American nation, this time in concert with a Northern European power.

An Administration official said that over time there could be a "troublesome" tendency among Latin American nations to view what some see as the ganging up of Britain and the United States against Argentina as a move with an inherent racial element.

Possible Shift to Sympathy

He added that the belief among many Latin American nations with large Indian or African populations that Argentina's ethnically European population looked down on them might give way to some sympathy if Argentina began to suffer heavy casualties in what was perceived to be an British-American campaign against a fellow Latin.

The exception to this view is likely to be the English-speaking Caribbean, which has largely supported the right of the Falkland Islanders to remain British. Only Grenada, taking the position of Nicaragua and Cuba, has defended Argentina's claim.

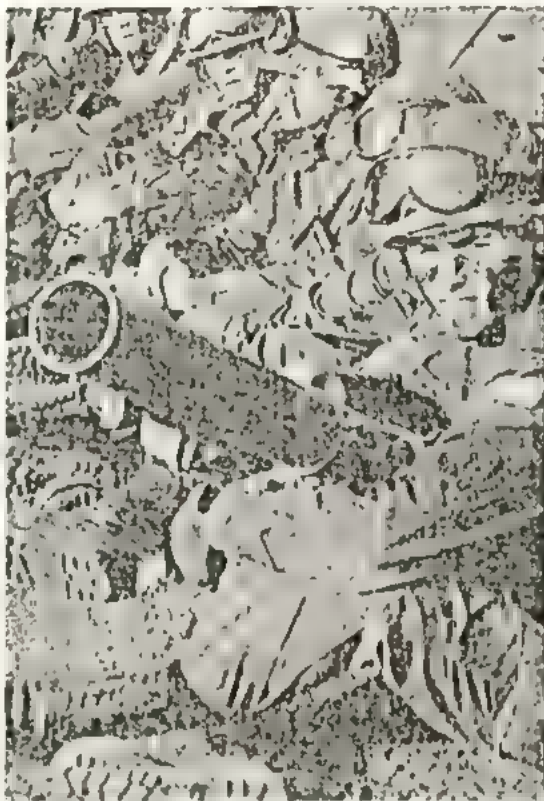
Some Latin American and United States analysts say that the position of Nicaragua and Cuba indicates that pro-Soviet nations in the hemisphere will work to make propaganda use of the Falklands crisis, hoping to embarrass the United States by contrasting the comments of the Administration on Soviet interference in the region with its support of Britain.

"I fear this may have set back United States relations with Latin America by a decade," said John Carbaugh, a foreign policy adviser to Senator Jesse A. Helms, the North Carolina Republican who heads the Senate Foreign Relations subcommittee on Inter-American Affairs.

Partnership at Stake

He asserted that the value of Latin America as a producer of raw materials and as a partner in strategic planning was at stake. A Bolivian diplomat, expressing a similar view, said last week that the military in Latin America would never completely trust the United States after the decision to side with Britain.

A Congressional expert on Latin America who has been critical of Administration policy in the region said today that a clearly conceived "constructive" policy toward Latin America might have mitigated some of the potential long-term damage to relations between the United States and its neighbors in the hemisphere.



Soldiers resting during a recent military exercise in southern Argentina. The location of the exercise was not revealed.

Countering that argument, an Administration official said that the policy of the United States was clear: It had drawn the line on Argentine military occupation just as it had drawn the line on Cuban- and Soviet-inspired insurgency in Central America.

Analysts say that the effects on Argentine-American relations if the Galtieri Government were to fall are difficult to predict because much would depend on the nature of the government that took its place.

Prevents Less Reasonable

An Administration official said that should the Peronists return to power, their traditional "soft" nationalism could make them less amenable to good relations with the United States.

Mr. Slat of the Washington Office on Latin America, which has been critical of Reagan Administration policy, supported that view, saying that "if the Peronists take over they are likely to take Argentina closer to the Soviet Union." Any future strategic use by the United States of the Falklands would then be ruled out, he said.

The defeat of the Galtieri Government, an Administration official said, would mean the loss of a group of what he described as outward-looking, cosmopolitan officials "who wanted more desperately to reintegrate Argentina into the West."

Next president among this group, the official said, was Nicolas Costa Mendez, Argentina's beleaguered Foreign Minister.

Among Casualties of Falkland Crisis Is Alliance Against Leftist Insurgents

By JAMES M. MARIAM
Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, May 3 — With Argentina sagged over American support for Britain on the Falkland Islands, one of the first diplomatic casualties in the South Atlantic conflict are the Reagan Ad-

ministration's warm opening to Argentina and plans for drawing it into a strategic understanding against leftist movements in Latin America.

In both Washington and Buenos Aires, this understanding by two Governments that profess to see eye to eye on the problem of Marxist insurrection in such countries as El Salvador does not seem to have gone much beyond the talking stage. But, for Argentina, the friendly embrace of the Reagan Administration had the merit of bringing it out of the pariah status in which the Carter Administration had consigned it because of its bad human rights record.

Now the Reagan Administration has, for different reasons, effectively adapted an even harsher version of that treatment. Having only weeks ago argued that Argentines should once again be eligible for American arms sales, it has now strengthened a ban applied during the Carter years, carried out a number of other economic sanctions and promised "material support for British forces" in the South Atlantic.

Shift Is Called Irony

"This is rather ironic," said a West German ambassador here, noting that the Argentines and the American Embassy here had been enthusiastic about the new relationship. "Now I can only see relations going downhill."

An might be expected, a distinct chill has set in between Washington and Buenos Aires, but more striking has been the curiously moderate language employed by President Leopoldo Galtieri and other senior Government figures in speaking about the United States. In a televised speech two nights ago after the first British attacks on the island at Stanley, the Falklands capital, General Galtieri confined himself to observing that Washington had sided "with the colonial pretensions" of "a European power."

There are several explanations for this restraint. One is that General Galtieri, who took a course in advanced engineering at Fort Belvoir, Va., in 1946, is genuinely pro-American in his outlook. On taking power last December he spoke hopefully of embracing Argentina's place in "the community of Western Christian nations." Foreign Minister Nicolas Costa Mendez has also been "a European power."

of those who would bring Argentine into the third world camp.

Another reason for this caution is that the Argentine Government is aware that anti-Americanism in a political sense is a bomb that could easily blow up, sending rampaging mobs into the streets that would first bear off the statue of General Galtieri himself if the war with Britain turned badly. Already, semilegal Peronist unions and political societies have started holding "anti-Communist" demonstrations over the Falklands war that have a strong opposition undertone.

Soviet Ties Reflected

Finally, in the view of Western diplomats and some Argentines, General Galtieri does not want at this time to sharpen his country's international isolation or move into anything resembling an alignment with the Soviet Union. Asked by an Argentine journalist recently what the Soviet Union represented in this country, Mr. Costa Mendez repeated with some firmness and courtesy the phrase "a good client" — a reference to Moscow's huge imports of Argentine grain and meat.

But, with hostilities taking place in the seas around the Falklands, the hairy civilized ties that now exist between Buenos Aires and Washington could easily deteriorate, and many diplomats expect them to get much worse before they get any better.

"It will depend on how much aid you are going to supply to the British," said an Argentine official, suggesting that as long as the United States was not perceived as a combatant greater anger could be avoided. "But it's not difficult to get in Latin America anti-Yankee movements. We have not asked the Russians to send tanks or planes or anything. But Mr. Nais has offered help to the British."

America's standing in Argentina — not to speak of stillborn plans for working with it to end insurrection in Central America — will inevitably be affected by the outcome of the conflict with Britain and its probable repercussions on the murky politics of the Argentine armed forces.

Should General Galtieri emerge victorious over what he has taken to calling "the British Empire," he might ungrudgingly forgive the United States for siding with his North Atlantic Treaty ally and not with Argentina, which likes to think of itself as an unshakable torchbearer of anti-Communist and Christian values forgotten in decadent Europe.

Algerian Official to Visit Iran

ALGIERS, May 3 (AP) — Foreign Minister Mohammed Ben Yabla left Algeria today for a five-day official visit to Iran. The visit is the first by a senior Algerian official since the Iranian revolution three years ago. The Algerian Government has good relations with the Islamic fundamentalist regime in Tehran, which accepted its services as mediator in the negotiations for release of the 52 Americans held hostage in Iran.

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Crisis in the Falklands: Washington Doubts Diplomacy's Effect

U.S. Initiatives Continuing, But Expectations Are Low

By BERNARD WESTMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 3 — The Reagan Administration said today that it was continuing its efforts to promote a "diplomatic settlement to the Falkland Islands crisis, but that recent public and private statements by the Argentine Government "have not been encouraging."

Reflecting its three-day-old position as an avowed ally of Britain in the dispute, the Administration blamed Argentina alone for the failure to make any headway in diplomatic efforts.

The Administration has stopped any, as it did earlier in the crisis, that both Britain and Argentina had to show flexibility. Spokesmen are now saying that a solution can be worked out if the Argentines drop their insistence on being guaranteed sovereignty over the Falklands before agreeing to a negotiated solution.

Hasting Dispute U.S.

The report late today from Buenos Aires that the cruiser General Belgrano was presumed to have sunk had a dramatic effect on the Administration. Administration officials said that their information tended to confirm the loss of the ship, but the State Department said that it was unable to do so officially.

But a statement, issued by the State Department in response to a question, said that "if the reports prove to be accurate, we would deeply regret the loss of life."

"It would point out the absolute necessity of reaching a peaceful settlement to this tragic conflict," the statement said.

British Says U.S. Plans to Meet

The implication in Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.'s remarks Friday in announcing that the United States was siding with Britain, was that the British were willing to accept the American plan that Argentina turned down. But Foreign Secretary Francis Pym of Britain, at a news conference Sunday, declined to endorse the American proposal, saying that the matter was moot since Argentina, which responded first, had not accepted them.

The latest diplomatic move involved an effort by Peru to lend its weight to what was essentially a revival of the American diplomatic plan, according to Administration officials.

Late Saturday night, Administration officials said, President Fernando Belaunde Terry sent a message to Mr. Haig suggesting that Peru might make an effort to help achieve a cease-fire.

Mr. Haig and Thomas O. Enders Jr., Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs, spent much of Sunday discussing some of Peru's ideas with Peruvian officials, with Mr. Enders on the phone to Foreign Minister Javier Arias Steig in Lima.

Much of the discussion was an at-

tempt to explain to the Peruvians the history of the failed American diplomatic effort. On Sunday night, President Belaunde, at a news conference in Lima, disclosed that a new initiative was under way and that he was optimistic about its chances for success.

Argentines Soon Reject Plan

Within hours, however, the British announced the torpedoing of the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano and the sinking of an Argentine patrol boat. The Argentines then announced that they had rejected the Peruvian plan because it was similar to the Falkland proposals already turned down.

The Argentine Ambassador to the United States, Esteban Tabares, later delivered a note to the State Department protesting the American decision to take Britain's side in the dispute.

Dennis Fischer, the State Department spokesman, said Mr. Haig telephoned Mr. Belaunde early this morning to talk over the initiative.

The overall impression here was that the Argentines were in no mood at the moment to give up on a matter of principle, like sovereignty, while they appear to be militarily on the defensive.

Mr. Fischer repeated that the United States was continuing to work for a diplomatic solution and urged others to do the same. He said that recent Argentine statements "have not been encouraging."

Administration officials said the Peruvian idea was not discussed by Mr. Haig when he met Mr. Pym at the State Department Sunday morning but was a subject at their lunch later in the day at the British Embassy.

Spain Ready to Help

Spain, which has close ties to Argentina, and which has had long experience in negotiating with Britain over the disputed territory at Gibraltar, has said it is willing to be of help to the two sides. The Spanish Foreign Minister, Juan Pedro Pérez Llorca, is due to meet with Mr. Haig Wednesday. Mr. Fischer said.

With the diplomatic effort apparently going nowhere, Mr. Haig was described by aides as agreeing with Mr. Pym that in time the pressure of Britain's military successes and Argentina's economic problems would lead the two to look for a third party to find a face-saving way out of the crisis.

Mr. Haig is said to believe that the Argentines are unlikely to go directly to the United States but might seek the mediation efforts of a friendly Latin country, like Peru. The Secretary General of the United Nations, Javier Pérez Cuéllar, is a Peruvian, and it is possible that he might be chosen as an intermediary, officials said. But they doubted that the Security Council itself would be drawn into the crisis because of the American and British vetoes.



Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, right, with Rafeuddin Ahmed, on left, yesterday at the U.N. Mr. Ahmed has been appointed coordinator of United Nations efforts to resolve dispute over Falkland Islands.

Pym Uninterested in Any U.N. Efforts Now

By BERNARD D. NOSSITER

Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 3 — Francis Pym, Britain's Foreign Secretary, displayed a marked lack of enthusiasm today for any early efforts by the United Nations to resolve the Falkland Islands crisis.

Instead, he reportedly told a news conference, Britain wants to "maintain pressure on the Argentines, diplomatically, militarily and politically," to force withdrawal of Argentine troops and compel negotiations over the islands' sovereignty.

Mr. Pym said, "Of course, I don't endorse a U.N. role" in the dispute. But he indicated that this was not the time and that Britain hoped to strengthen its bargaining position by inflicting more damage on Argentina.

Asked about the prospects of a diplomatic solution, he said, "It does not look terribly hopeful at the moment." The Argentines "have got to change their minds and we've got to maintain the exclusive zone," he said, in a reference to the 200-mile blockade area around the islands.

"Various Ideas" From U.N. Chief

The Foreign Secretary said that Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the United Nations Secretary General, had "put up various ideas" to end the conflict at their dinner meeting on Sunday night.

But these were "not particularly specific ideas at the moment," he said.

Mr. Pym said he found that "the exploration was useful." But he suggested that Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar "may feel the time is not ripe" for a United Nations plan.

The Secretary General, in fact, is eager for a prompt settlement, according to aides, and has begun acting as an unofficial and informal mediator between the two sides. He has put off indefinitely a trip to Africa that he was scheduled to begin on Wednesday in order to work on the Falkland conflict.

The British minister was asked if he feared that increasing military pressure on Argentina would make it impossible for the junta to negotiate.

"I'm afraid I don't mind what happens to the Argentine Government," he said, "whether they fall or they change two or three times." It was the Argentines who began the fight, he said, by sending troops to seize the islands.

Shouting from Pullback Sought

The prevailing view at the United Nations is that a solution must consist of the simultaneous withdrawal of the Argentine troops and the British fleet, linked to some British pledge that sovereignty will ultimately revert to Argentina. Mr. Pym hinted that the reversion of sovereignty was not excluded. London, he said, has an "open mind."

about the status in the long term" of the Falklands.

He was deliberately ambiguous about the extent to which the Falkland Islanders might veto any plan. Two years ago, Britain offered to give up the islands to Argentina in return for a long lease, but it withdrew the offer at the demand of the Islanders.

Today, Mr. Pym said that the dispute centered on "the right of people to choose their government for themselves" and compared the invasion of the Falklands with the Soviet conquest in Afghanistan and the imposition of martial law in Poland. But he also said, "We are the trustees for the people of the Falkland Islands," and observed that trustees could act without the consent of beneficiaries.

After a weekend of apparently successful action by British ships and planes, Mr. Pym radiated confidence. "When we succeed, and we intend to succeed, if possible by negotiation, if not by force — the world will be a safer place," he said.

Mr. Pym also conferred with the President of the Security Council, Ling Qiong of China, before flying back to London. Mr. Ling, in turn, consulted each of the Council's 14 other members. This was a holding action. Britain does not want a fresh Council meeting because it might call for a halt in hostilities.

SOVIET BLAMES U.S. FOR BRITISH MOVES

But Tass Commentaries Give No Sign Kremlin Will Get Involved in Falklands

By JOHN P. BURNS

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, May 3 — The Soviet Union depicted the United States today as having fanned off the flurry of British military actions in the South Atlantic, but a series of official press commentaries offered no sign that the Kremlin intended to involve itself more directly in the conflict.

In a dispatch from London, the official press agency Tass described the spate of British naval and air attacks against Argentine forces as the consequence of the Reagan Administration's decision to side openly with Britain. The agency said the move amounted to a "green light" Washington gave London to escalate the conflict.

"Having secured such a strong backing, London has immediately gone over from threats to action," it said.

The British military actions, including the bombing of the airfield at Stanley and the torpedoing of the Argentine cruiser, have been reported in a largely evenhanded manner, although the accounts of the Argentine military command have been given fuller coverage than the conflicting versions from the British authorities in London.

Gloating in Commentary

In today's commentaries, however, "the roar of the British armada's guns" was depicted by Tass as vintage imperialism in defiance of international law and the United Nations Charter. Yuri Korovin, a Tass analyst, called the actions "a manifestation of the imperialist policy of establishing positions of strength," and added, "Needless to say, all this fits perfectly into Washington's global imperialist line: its core being the expansion of U.S. and NATO influence wherever possible."

Mr. Korovin gloated over the impact he said American policy was likely to have on efforts to reassert American influence in South America. "It seems not long ago that Washington bled on every occasion with negotiation talk to the effect that the United States was the most loyal friend and 'dependable ally' of the Latin American countries," he wrote.

However, the Tass analyst indicated that the Kremlin was content to restrict itself to polemic. He said Soviet policy, which he described as unchanged, remained firmly opposed to "the restoration of the colonial status of the islands." Instead, he said, the Kremlin believed that the dispute should be settled with negotiations in accordance with United Nations resolutions.

THE CHRISTIAN SCIENCE

"First of

The Monitor's view

MONITOR

the ear"

Thursday, March 4, 1982

Fire over the Falklands

Britain is combining resoluteness with carefully measured pressure in its military actions in the Falklands. The world can only feel disappointment that the Falklands crisis has reached the point of shooting. But the military operations at this writing appear to have been precisely calculated and relatively restrained: presumably because Britain seeks at every turn to give Argentina an opportunity to step back from its unlawful course, and because the British are under constraints to minimize casualties. There is no taste for an all-out bash. The question is how far the shooting will go before the realities of the situation sink home in Buenos Aires. The battle is in effect a test of wills.

Reason still lies on the side of a negotiated settlement, and few look upon the British military pressures as other than setting the stage for further diplomacy. Now that the United States has come down squarely on the side of its British ally — and it could do no less morally or politically — Washington's role as a mediator seems effectively diminished.

A next logical step is to move the diplomatic focus to the United Nations, as Britain and the United States show some signs of doing. Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar already is engaged in a vigorous effort to find a solution that would enable Argentina to withdraw its forces from the Falklands and begin talks without intolerable loss of face. Britain seems lukewarm to another Security Council meeting. But it must weigh the international criticism it would invite if it resisted a UN initiative to bring the crisis to an end — and the prospect of heavy loss of life if it remained adamant. Inasmuch as Britain is acting under the legal imprimatur of a Security Council resolution and the UN Charter, it could hardly refuse to go along with further council action.

It is Argentina, however, that faces anguishing choices. Pride, honor, prestige — all these are now bound up with the sorry predicament it has gotten itself into. Can it extricate itself without a change of government, with all the risk and instability this would entail? That is impossible to know. But, if the Argentinians are acting out of true national self-interest rather than jingoistic emotion, they will reflect on the benefits to be gained by swallowing their pride, which is not a good guide to action in any circumstance. There is,

after all, no dispute of substance over the Falklands — which makes full-scale war all the more ridiculous. Britain has long been prepared to give up sovereignty of the islands if the Falklanders can be brought around. With all that has happened in the past month, it is not unlikely that the next effort to persuade the islanders of the reasonableness of some new political arrangement will be more successful.

While search for a diplomatic solution goes on, a British policy of military restraint is to be encouraged. To be sure, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is fighting for a principle — namely, that aggression not be rewarded. On this score she has the support of most of the international community and rightly so. International law has to be defended and democracies must be willing to take appropriate action to defend it. But largeness of character in a nation — and political sagacity — also require knowing the point beyond which an adversary must not be humiliated if the way to peace is to be opened. It is to be recalled, for instance, that Israel stopped short of inflicting total defeat on the Egyptians in the 1973 war: the eventual outcome of that "stalemate" was the first peace treaty in the Middle East in over 30 years. Moreover, if great numbers of Argentinians are killed — in a squabble that is not really a squabble — Britain must reckon with how it might then look in the eyes of the world.

Needed on all sides, in short, is the ability to see the difference between human will and wisdom. If Britain's and Argentina's friends cannot directly affect the sad events unfolding in this remote corner of the globe, they surely can pray that two nations of Christian persuasion will find the moral courage and the insight to settle their differences by peaceful means.

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EASTERN EDITION

40¢

Britain piles pressure on Argentina

With military force and long-run buildup, London tries to push Buenos Aires out of Falklands

By David K. Willis
Staff correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

London
Believing that Argentina has its "back to the wall," a confident Britain is piling on the pressure around the Falkland Islands while naval strategists here plan their next moves.

Part of the pressure is immediate and physical: using air and submarine power. Britain said it sank one armed Argentine naval auxiliary ship and damaged another May 3 just a few hours after one of its nuclear submarines "severely" damaged the cruiser General Belgrano with torpedoes.

British strategy is to inflict damage that is spectacular but does not kill indiscriminately. Two escort ships believed to be frigates with the General Belgrano were allowed to escape unharmed.

Another part of the pressure is long term: the requisitioning of four more ships, including the cruise liner Queen Elizabeth 2, and the alerting of an extra infantry brigade to stand by to be shipped to the war zone. The brigade could include as many as 3,000 men.

The requisitioning of civilian ships over the past three weeks is in part designed to force Argentina to face the fact that London is prepared to keep on fighting for months, if necessary, to isolate the Falklands and force the occupying Argentine troops to withdraw.

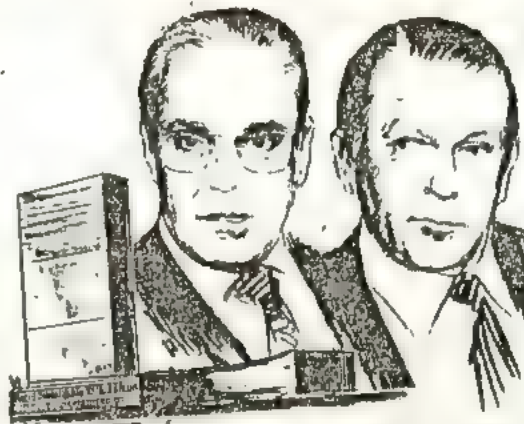
A third part of the pressure is psychological: using the short-wave World Service of the British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) to reject Argentine versions of the fighting so far and broadcast the British view to Latin America. In reply, Argentina has begun jamming three of the four BBC transmitters aimed at Argentina itself. BBC engineers have begun work on ways around the interference.

The British government has been specifically concerned to deny Argentina's claims that at least two Harrier jump jets had been shot down and that the Port Stanley airfield had suffered no damage from British air raids May 1. The British Defense Ministry dismissed these claims as "fabrications" May 3. It said British correspondents on board the aircraft carrier Hermes had counted the Harriers leaving the ship and the same number returning. The reporters had also seen aerial photographs of the damage to the Port Stanley runway.

Similarly, Britain has been using Foreign Secretary Francis Pym's latest US visit to remind everyone, including Argentines, that: (1) Britain is counting on US logistical support, and (2) is keeping the door open to further mediation attempts, for instance, by United Nations Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar.

The "back to the wall" comment came from a former flag officer.

★ Please turn to Page 10



By Albert J. Forban, staff artist

Mediating role? UN's Pérez de Cuéllar meets Britain's Pym

Argentina has the goods, but look at the price tag

By James Nelson Goodell
Latin America correspondent of The Christian Science Monitor

Buenos Aires

This is a nation that is living with deceptive abundance. There is plenty of almost everything. But the price of it all is increasingly out of reach of the average Argentine.

That is the essential human drama in the economic mess in which Argentina finds itself.

Few nations in the world are as blessed as Argentina with good climate, superb soil, abundance of minerals, and just about everything else, including an educated populace. This should be enough to make this South American land a paradise.

But Argentina is on the verge of bankruptcy. And so are a number of Argentine businesses. Individual Argentines have to scramble fast to keep the proverbial wolf away from the door.

Seizure of the Falkland Islands April 2, and the looming war with Britain, has only made matters worse. Consider these points: Inflation is the worst in the world, at least 150 percent per year.

★ Please turn to Page 11

From page 1

Britain piles pressure on Argentina with military force and buildup

cer of the British submarine force, Vice-Adm. Sir Ian McGeoch (ret.). He is said to be in close touch with former colleagues. And reflecting the general military air of confidence so far, he told interviewers flatly May 3 that Argentina had failed to think through the military implications of its seizure of the Falklands last April 2.

British confidence stems from both its series of air and naval successes so far and its lack of losses.

When Britain retook the island of South Georgia, it put out of action one of Argentina's four submarines, the Santa Fe, and took almost 200 prisoners. In the last few days, the British task force says it has cratered both Port Stanley and Goose Green airstrips on the Falklands, shot down a supersonic Mirage fighter and a subsonic Canberra bomber, damaged another Canberra, and seen Argentine ground fire damage one of Argentina's own Mirages.

Thereafter, according to the Ministry of Defense May 3, a British submarine hit the General Belgrano with torpedoes just outside of the 200-mile exclusion zone, but allowed its escorts to escape. The cruiser carried 1,000

men, five-inch and six-inch guns, and helicopters. It was not known at this writing whether it had sunk or how many crew had been injured.

About eight hours later, early May 3, British Lynx helicopters north of East Falkland Island came under machine-gun fire from a patrol-craft-type auxiliary vessel (later described as a "tug" by a British reporter on the Hermes) and promptly sank it with missile fire. Another auxiliary vessel opened antiaircraft fire and helicopters inflicted damage on it. British fliers dropped lifesaving equipment nearby.

British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher could now order the task force to continue enforcing the exclusion zone — a task made easier by the promise of fuel and supplies from the United States Navy.

This would save British lives, which Mrs. Thatcher needs to do to retain support here at home, and could avoid the kind of heavy Argentine casualties that might damage British support in Europe and the US.

The disadvantage of a blockade is that it takes time, with winter weather growing worse.

When British reinforcements arrive (paratroopers, helicopters, and 20 more Harrier jump jets) in a few days' time, the prime minister could decide to strike at Argentine mainland airstrips or sink more Navy vessels.

Or she could order Marines to occupy small areas of the Falklands.

At the moment, Britain is said to have about 18 warships on station, including two aircraft carriers, two cruisers, 10 frigates and destroyers, one assault ship, and three nuclear submarines.

Another assault ship is on the way together with 20 or more civilian ships including the cruise liners Canberra and Uganda, several ambulance ships, and assorted freighters and cargo vessels, and now the Queen Elizabeth 2.

The Defense Ministry said the QE 2 was necessary because it had the size and capacity to keep troops fit on a long voyage and the speed to get them to the South Atlantic quickly. It was also clearly designed as a spectacular measure, as headline-catching pressure — ordered so quickly that the captain of the QE 2 himself learned of the Navy order at sea May 3 from a BBC reporter who telephoned to ask for his reaction.

From page 10

Argentina has goods...

When the "new" peso went into effect 14 years ago, clipping four ciphers from the old currency, the peso's value was 3.5 to the US dollar. Today it is 11,900 to the US dollar.

In 1945, Argentina had a foreign-reserve balance of \$36 billion — accumulated from the sale of bumper crops of wheat and corn and of vast quantities of the range-fed beef for which Argentina is so famous. Today, Argentina is in debt by some \$34 billion, with \$7 billion needed in 1982 to simplify debt servicing.

Still, Argentina exports vast quantities of grain and beef yearly. If it produced more — and it could, in abundance — it could readily sell it abroad. At the moment the Russians are its best customer, and Argentina in 1981 enjoyed a \$2 million trade surplus with the Russians, who paid in hard currency.

Now, however, the Soviets, who are still buying huge quantities of Argentine grain, want to pay for the grain with Soviet products. And it seems increasingly likely, with the escalating South Atlantic conflict, that Buenos Aires will be purchasing military equipment from the Soviet Union.

This will cut down on the amount of hard currency available to Argentina to pay off its whopping foreign debt.

All this is somewhat lost on average Argentines, many of whom hold two jobs to make ends meet. Juan Montero is typical. A copyright associate in a law firm here, he brings home 7 million pesos a month, while earning an additional 1 million pesos as a taxi driver on weekends and several nights a week.

"It is not enough," he said disgustedly. Furiously waving his arm, he blurts out: "Life should not be this way." Juan's wife works also, bringing home another 6 million pesos a month. Juan calculated he needs 50 million a month to live adequately.

Ministry of Economy officials agree that a family of five (Juan and his wife, Josefina, have three children) would do well to have 40 million pesos a month to "get by," as one ministry spokesman put it.

One item that helps Juan and Josefina is their outright ownership of their four-room apartment in Quimes. The three children scrunch up in one bedroom. "As they grow," says Josefina, "we're going to have to make an adjustment. The children are now nine, six, and three."

The Monteros do not have any savings, either. Juan says, "I owe several million pesos."

Argentines who have savings have been pulling them out of banks and financial institutions at a fast clip in recent weeks, converting them into dollars, buying consumer goods, or simply hoarding them in mattresses. This run on deposits is partly responsible for the collapse last week of the nation's largest financial institution, the Financiera Parana. It overextended itself on loans, and had only 15 percent of its deposits serving as reserves. Other institutions in a similar plight.

Meanwhile, the gross national product fell 6 percent last year. It is expected to fall another 3 percent this year, but it may fall even more as business bankruptcies occur with growing frequency and as industries tool down for a drop in sales.

Automobile manufacturers are closing assembly lines. Only sale of trucks to Cuba has kept some lines open. Closings have led to high unemployment.

To counter all this, the military government of Gen. Leopoldo Fortunato Galtieri last December named Roberto Teodoro Alemann as minister of the economy. One of the nation's most respected economists, he was given blanket powers to set the economy straight. He immediately froze wages of public-sector employees, an unpopular action in a country where at least 30 percent of the work force is employed by the government.

One reason so many people are employed by the government is that the state has assumed control of ailing industries. The military rules over vast areas of the economy.

Dr. Alemann has his work cut out from the start, but now that war with Britain has come along, he sees his plans being nudged aside.

Britain ruling the waves — and the air?

By James Nelson Goodrich
Latin America correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Buenos Aires

With the lopping of the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano, the British fleet in the South Atlantic has taken one more step in its strategy of escalating the pressure on Argentina.

The incident May 2 also must remove any lingering doubts in Buenos Aires about the effectiveness of British naval might in the conflict over the Falkland Islands, which Argentina seized April 2.

Doubts about British air power are likewise fading. The sinking of an Argentine patrol vessel and the damaging of another by Harrier jump jets — after the attack on the General Belgrano — suggest how effective British air power is.

It now seems clear that Britain has, more or less, effectively taken control of South Atlantic waters and in the process of assuming control of the air as well.

Details of the various sea and air actions, however, are sketchy. Both sides continue to issue conflicting claims.

Truth, in a way, is a big loser.

But now Argentina is less boastful about its claims of victory over British forces. It admits the attack on the General Belgrano and loss of two Israeli-built Dagger jets.

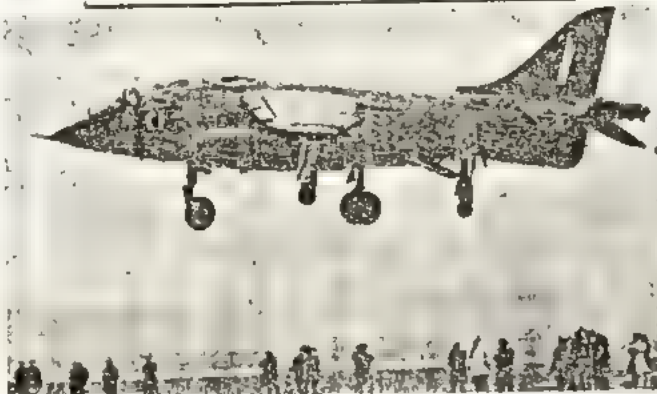
The cruiser apparently suffered heavy damage in the attack by a British submarine off Tierra del Fuego. The ship, which had recently assumed the role of flagship of the Argentine Navy, is reportedly limping toward Ushuaia, an Argentine naval port at the tip of South America.

Whether the General Belgrano, the Argentine Navy's only cruiser, is out of action permanently is unclear. But it will have to undergo extensive repairs and certainly will not be available at an early date.

Meanwhile, speculation continues here that elements of the British Royal Marines and other elite British commando troops are already on the Falklands — probably the West Falklands, the less inhabited and less defended of the two islands.

Mr. Gen. Jeremy Moore, chief of British commando forces, visited the British armada late last week to confer with Brig. Julian Thompson, commander of the 2,000 assault troops and Commodore Michael Clapp, the Navy chief of amphibious warfare.

Argentine military analysts suggest the Moore visit was a preliminary step to the



A Harrier jet performs a low pass over the water.

Harrier jet can jump, hover — or 'viff'

From the wire services

London

Britain's air attacks on Falkland Islands airstrips and the subsequent dogfights with Argentine fighters have given a first combat test to a revolutionary warplane, the Harrier. British reports indicate the "jump jet" has performed well, helping knock out the airstrips and downing at least two Argentine planes — a Mirage fighter and a Canberra bomber — without any losses. (Argentine claims to have shot down two or more Harriers.)

Air warfare experts around the world will be watching with keen interest to evaluate the true worth of a plane that can perform some spectacular tricks. The Harrier can take off vertically, which makes it ideal for use off ships and for ground support operations, backing up infantry attacks from improvised bases near the battlefield.

This is potentially valuable in the Falklands conflict. Britain says the islands' two airstrips have been heavily damaged, preventing their use by Argentine planes. The British Harrier, however, still can land anywhere on the islands.

Although the Harrier has less than half the 1,500 mph top speed of the Argentine Mirage jets, Harrier pilots are pinning their hopes on a technique known as "viffing" to outfly the Argentines. By swiveling the downward nozzles used for vertical takeoff and landing, pilots can turn on a dime and even bring the aircraft to a halt in mid-flight. Viffing also allows pilots to move sideways, upward, even backward. In a dogfight a Harrier could thus leapfrog backward over a pursuing enemy plane or even sidestep a missile, things no other aircraft can do.

Built in Britain by Hawker Siddeley, the Harrier has been in service with the British Air Force since 1969. But it was only recently that the US Marine Corps, which has more than 100 Harriers, perfected the viffing technique.

Sea Harriers in the South Atlantic carry some of the latest tools of air war. Packed in its nose is a radar system that, tied in with sophisticated navigation equipment, gives the pilot a moving map of his whereabouts projected on a screen in front of him. At his fingertips are the launch buttons for some of the newest generation of Siddeley air-to-air missiles with heat-seeking guidance systems that can find a target from any angle.

British landing.

"All is in readiness on the island," said one analyst. "To meet the British man for man."

Gen. Mario Benjamin Menéndez, Argentina's military governor of the islands, telephoned Buenos Aires late May 2 to say "all is well and without problems. Long live the fatherland!"

But there are concerns about whether the

10,000-or-so Argentine troops on the Falklands will be able to resist a determined British attack. Many, if not most, of the soldiers are conscripts serving a one-year military obligation. They come largely from warmer regions of Argentina and are basically unprepared for the cold, inhospitable climate of the Falklands, particularly with the approach of winter.

Spain keeps close watch on Falklands

By Tessa Graham
Special to The Christian Science Monitor

Madrid

Right in the heart of Madrid, presiding over a huge square, is a statue atop a 60-foot column of Christopher Columbus, one arm raised pointing the way to the Americas.

Beneath him are a series of massive sculptured stone blocks on which are carved the names of the discoverers and colonizers of the New World. This is a constant reminder of Spain's cultural, emotional, and historic links with Latin America and the Spanish-speaking world.

These links may seem more emotional and historic, but the Falklands' crisis has shown how much Spain still identifies with its former colonies in Latin America. And it also shows the very real dilemma Spain faces in trying to be a fully European country.

This explains why Prime Minister Calvo Sotelo this past weekend offered to act as mediator for Argentina. José Pedro Pérez Llorca, the minister of foreign affairs, was expected to leave Spain May 3 for talks in New York with United Nations Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar, on the Falklands crisis, but said he had no mediation brief.

Spain has been the only major Western country not to back Britain in this crisis and which abstained in the UN Security Council resolution calling for the withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Falkland Islands.

Significantly, Argentina's claim to the Falklands is similar to Spain's over another British colony, Gibraltar.

Democratic Spain has been torn between supporting a military junta in Argentina — of which it disapproves but whose claim to the Falklands it supports — and being a full member of the Western club.

Spain has applied to join NATO and should be accepted in the alliance before the summer. It also hopes to join the European Community in 1984.

Spain's may not have a large financial stake in Argentina but there are nearly a million Spaniards living there, whose interests have to be considered.

The Spanish press and public opinion are showing a defective bias toward the Argentines. The right wing has been distributing leaflets in support of the Argentinians, having never forgotten that at the time of the international boycott of Spain in the 1930s and early 1960s Argentina supplied Spain with much-needed foodstuffs.

Spain is also acutely conscious of being judged by Latin America after so much talk of *Hispanidad*. Literally this means Spanishness — a sort of clamish brotherhood sharing the same religion, language, and often common ancestry.

Spain is referred to in Latin America as *la madre patria* (the mother country), and this is a role that it has sought to fulfill. Under Franco, many Latin Americans felt that Spain was trying to lord it over them.

But, still, *Hispanidad* was strong enough for Franco to ignore US pleas to boycott Castro's Cuba. Thus even though diametrically opposed in their ideologies, Franco's Spain and Castro's Cuba continued to trade. Franco and Castro both originated from the northwestern Spanish province of Galicia, the source of much Spanish immigration to Latin America.

King Juan Carlos has made a personal point of improving these Hispanic links and has been more successful than Franco in riding Spain of its condescending image toward Latin America.

Diplomats accompanying the King on his visits to Latin America cite frequent instances of people saying "our king has come," meaning that the sense of *Hispanidad* covers the idea that the Spanish monarch is still the king of all the Spanish-speaking subjects.

OPINION AND COMMENTARY

Readers write

The Falklands dispute

There is a lesson in the Falkland Islands crisis. It is embodied in just two words: national sovereignty. Why must sovereign nations continue to act in this way?

It is because national sovereignty recognizes no authority, court, law or policing agent higher than itself. In short, every sovereign nation is a law unto itself.

A threat of armed violence would not have been made in the Falklands conflict if there was an effective authority and control over sovereign nations. Likewise the world would not be so terrified over the nuclear arms race if there was reason to hope that enough people would demand that national sovereignty be subordinated to global interests. The realization of this "if" is the next great imperative on the path to a less dangerous world!

Peter, VT.

Quinn, N.J.

The junta is using its seizure in a determined and obvious effort to force the attention of the Argentines away from the economic disaster and political repression plaguing their nation. Two days before the invasion of the Falkland Islands there was rioting in the streets of Buenos Aires resulting in the arrests of thousands, and the Argentine government faced possible civil war. Today at the expense of the British and all decency the junta remains in power by the age-old device of identifying (in this case, creating) a foreign threat.

If the result is destruction, world opinion must be brought down upon the Argentinian dictatorship for what it has done and upon the Argentinian people for allowing it to happen.

Hackensack, N.J.

R. Franklin Reissner III

The problems of sovereignty and ownership of imperialistic plums are a fallout from the free-booting days of the 18th and 19th centuries. The English device of seizing those areas containing a predominantly English population was very effective, as well as contagious: witness the American seizure of Texas from Mexico. Today the English use the population factor as a 20th-century justification for their claim to the Falklands (1833). Is it objective journalism for the Monitor to overlook the Argentinian (Spanish) claim, particularly prior to the English claim of 1833? Nor do you offer an appreciation of the strategic importance — i.e. national security — from an Argentinian standpoint.

Victoria, B.C., Canada

John K. Wilson

The UN Charter and international law clearly support the right to self-determination even of small colonies. In this respect, the Falklanders are quite determined not to be Argentinians. In recent years, Djibouti, St. Vincent, the Seychelles, and Belize have freely and legally chosen independence. St. Pierre and Miquelon — much closer to Canada than the Falklands to Argentina — have chosen to be French. Gibraltar has chosen to be British.

Where self-determination has been illegally repressed by nations touting claims as hoary as Argentina's (Morocco's "liberation" of the Spanish Sahara, and Indonesia's "adoption" of East Timor), bloodshed amounting almost to genocide has been the rule. I don't believe that Britain, the earliest and longest defender of modern democratic freedom, is motivated solely by cultural hatred in her readiness to come to the aid of those who look to her for protection from such a fate.

Ormond, Calif.

John K. Daniels

As so many people rally to support England's defense of the Falklands, I wonder how many of them stop to think how England obtained her "Empire" in the first place. How did she get the Falklands in 1833? If there is anything a country wishes to know about plundering another's country, just ask England.

"England has dealt cruel and inhumane treatment to the Irish people for 813 years."

New York

H. Smith

If the Argentine government really wants the Falkland Islands why doesn't it offer to buy them? It would be much cheaper. The 1,800 sheepherding British residents should then have a renewable 99-year lease, rent free in consideration of the years and money spent in caretaking, etc. A cooperative arrangement could be made for Argentina to drill for offshore oil, if that is what their purpose is all about some part of the proceeds, if any, to benefit the islanders for the resulting inconvenience. The islanders would retain their present nationality and self-government, treating the Argentine drillers as a business operation in their midst. And everybody's face would be saved.

Plymouth, Mass.

Charlotte L. Sears



There is oil, lots of oil, in the Falklands (or Malvinas) region. The British want the oil and the Argentines want the oil. The islands are closer to Argentina and should rightfully belong to Argentina.

Venice, Calif.

Charles A. Williamson

To your excellent April 4 summary of two centuries of complex dispute of Falkland-Malvinas ownership, I would add further ramifications. For example, France, too, was a claimant, and she originated the name Malvinas (from Malloquines). In 1764 she established the first permanent settlement and introduced cattle and horses. When Charles Darwin visited in 1833-34, he was fascinated by their wild descendants, especially by variations in semi-isolated subpopulations of these animals. He even speculated that a unique Falkland pony might evolve in the future and he (correctly) predicted the extinction of a large native fox. Darwin was guided by Argentine gauchos, who had exploited the cattle after European abandonment at the end of the 18th century. Two decades after the 1833 British reoccupation, the islands became (among other things) a base for the English South American Missionary Society's effort to Christianize the stone-age aborigines of nearby southernmost South America. Indeed, the same H. M. S. Beagle that carried Darwin also brought back three Yaghan Indians who had spent three years in England. Britain almost certainly could have claimed Tierra del Fuego and much of Patagonia as well as the Falklands at that time, for Argentina did not establish a presence in the far south until 1883.

In recent years, Argentina has intensified its claim not only to the Falkland (Malvinas) Islands and the faraway former whaling center of South Georgia (San Pedro) Island, but also to the entire Antarctic Peninsula and Weddell Sea. She has steadily increased the number of scientific-military bases there, and sometimes has beligerently challenged approaches to them by others. Therefore, besides potential petroleum beneath the continental shelf around the Falklands and a convenient distraction for the Argentine populace from domestic woes, there is a more subtle, longer-range implication to the seizure, for the Antarctic Treaty which prohibits any territorial claims, is due to expire in 1991. While claims to the Falkland Islands are obscured in ambiguity, the motivations for Argentina's takeover seem crystal clear to those who have worked in that uttermost part of the earth.

Medison, Wis.

R. H. Dett Jr.

Britain's claim to sovereignty (based on occupancy for the last 150 years) is clearly better than Argentina's (based on sporadic visits over a decade in the early 18th century). British governments have only been willing to discuss shared sovereignty with Argentina because the islands need to be free from Argentine threats if they are to be properly developed. But Britain has always faced the problem that the Falklanders themselves would far prefer to remain a self-ruling British colony with no connections whatever with Argentina.

The islands have a thriving wool industry which only needs a freezer plant to make it also a thriving lamb industry. The seas teem with fish, and these could as well be caught by British as by East European fishing vessels. And there is strong evidence to show that the Falklands' shelf contains a massive oil field. If joint sovereignty is to be permanent and successful Britain must show the same determination as Argentina to develop the islands and must match Argentine investment dollar for dollar. A timid approach will betray the islanders' as well as Britain's best interests.

Isle of Man, U.K.

Howard L. Fry

I've been following the crisis surrounding the Falkland Islands with a great deal of concern. One evening in an effort to lighten the mood my husband, who is an Argentinian by birth, proposed a unique solution.

Let there be a winner-take-all, best of seven soccer tournament. This should be held in some neutral place like the United States where they know nothing at all about the sport. Since Great Britain is soccer's mother country and Argentina is the current world champion, perhaps they would agree that this would be a fair way to determine who should win the Falkland Islands.

At first I thought this was totally ridiculous, and we had a good laugh. But after thinking about it awhile, I feel that shots on goal to score make a lot more sense than the shots on target going on now.

Gresham, Ore.

Janet B. Pizzarello

The following letter should be inscribed on the front doors of the White House, the United Nations, and the Argentine Embassy.

I received it from a French-Canadian Montreal friend who often makes me the intrigued recipient of his views of the moment.

I am concerned that Canada may (like your friends the Argentinians in the Falklands) invade the United States to pursue legitimate claims dating back to 1775, and the war we won in 1813-14 (with no reparations!).

Applying logic to the above, and if the Argentine claims are legitimate, as (UN Ambassador) Jeane Kirkpatrick seems to think, then Spain, France, Russia, and the United Kingdom claims on the US should be next.

It seems logical for France to return the cash and take back the Louisiana Purchase. After all, it was a duress sale. The same for Alaska. Then Spain — Mexico should get back New Mexico, California, and Texas. (The latter would be Texanicos.)

The Northeast US would then revert to legitimate British rule, with Canada managing it for the Brits. Those citizens not wanting to be Brits could return to Europe or Africa, or be deported.

Under the new setup Benedict Arnold would become a hero and George Washington and Benjamin Franklin rebels to the cause of righteous, benevolent British rule.

It would all be so different, and after a few years, no better than the present.

Rochester, N.Y.

F. Wesley Moffett Jr.

I want to thank you for the tribute to "Britannia" in the Monitor of April 26 ("What the world owes Britannia"). I was born in England and came as a bride to the US in 1913 at age 20, so I am a good American citizen who actually uses her vote. But, "what's bred in the bone," etc.

San Diego

Notah W. Woodward

Argentina and Britain need a confrontation, but not with guns. I think they both know it would be no less than a kamikaze-type effort to soothe their wounds of hurt pride with war. They can act sensibly in the matter of occupation of the Falklands. A lot of people in the world will expect no less.

Sacramento, Calif.

Gary Frates

Letters are welcome. Only a selection can be published and none individually acknowledged. All are subject to condensation. Please address letters to "Readers write."

Britons Both Proud And Apprehensive Over Show of Might

By WILLIAM BORDERS

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 2. — At the end of Downing Street, anxious little knots of people pressed up against the police barricades today, hoping for a glimpse of the men — and the woman — of power.

Across Whitehall, outside the 10-story, gray stone Defense Ministry, Sunday strollers paused to watch television correspondents from around the world doing what they call "stand-uppers" by the front door — relayed accounts of the battles between British and Argentine forces in the South Atlantic over the Falkland Islands.

And from pulpits all across the country, there were prayers this morning for the safety of British fighting men far away and theological explanations of how, as the Archbishop of Canterbury put it, "the use of limited force in defense of clear principles can sometimes be justified."

For the first time since the Suez crisis of 1956, British troops were fighting in foreign parts. And although there was elation at the first military successes — "Navy Hits Them All To Blazes," proclaimed The Sunday Express — there was a good deal of apprehension as well.

"I still find the whole thing quite in-

Continued on Page B13, Column 1

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The front pages of newspapers yesterday in London. Although there is elation at the first reports of military successes, there is also apprehension.

Britons Are Showing Both Pride and Apprehension

Continued From Page 1

credith," said Alison Mackay, as she sat enjoying the warm spring sunshine in Regent's Park. "Two months ago I had barely heard of the Falkland Islands, and then when the crisis began I still regarded it all as a joke. Now it's real, and that is frightening."

Like the Most Rev Robert Runcie, the Archbishop of Canterbury, many Britons took satisfaction in the fact that their men were fighting not so much for territory as for the principle that aggression must not pay.

Moreover, to a nation that is economically distressed and still adjusting to a lessened role in the world, the Falklands operation has restored what Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher called "a fantastic pride of country."

"We still have a certain kind of majesty, and we are not bad when it comes

to might either," the Prime Minister said Friday night at a Conservative Party meeting in Bedfordshire.

'Fed Up With Abuse of Power'

"We were not going to have people walking all over British citizens even if they were 4,000 miles away," she said. "We, the British people, were fed up with the abuse of power."

The recapture of South Georgia Island last Sunday and the military gains that the British claimed around the Falklands Saturday have also rekindled in some quarters the easy sense of superiority with which many Britons have traditionally viewed the world beyond their shores.

Editorial cartoons have depicted the Argentine leaders as swarthy gauchos, and one BBC anchorman today was scarcely able to suppress a smirk as he reported the claim from Buenos Aires that the British had lost as many as 11 aircraft in Saturday's fighting.

Mrs. Thatcher's popularity continues

to climb, according to the public opinion polls. From a position of trailing the two opposition parties just before the Falklands crisis began, her party had 43 percent support in a poll published today in The Sunday Times. That compared with 30 percent for Labor and 25 percent for the new centrist alliance of Liberals and Social Democrats.

Warning for the Government

But the same poll, by Market & Opinion Research International, also bore a warning for the Government. Although 73 percent of the those surveyed declared themselves "satisfied" with Mrs. Thatcher's tough handling of the crisis, an almost equally high proportion said the goal of regaining the Falklands was not worth the life of a single British serviceman. The implication was that the widespread public backing could be abruptly eroded by British casualties.

Although there is no indication of any substantial opposition to the Govern-

ment's posture in the Falklands dispute, Tony Benn, the left-wing Laborite Member of Parliament, continued his campaign against it, charging that the Prime Minister had lost control of "the war machine she set in progress."

Mr. Benn told of a letter he said he had received from the fiancée of a young marine.

"She said that most of his commands unit did not want to fight over islands so far from home," he said. "Most of them are only 18 years old. They come from working-class families and only joined up to escape the dole queue. Some of them will not see their young lives. They are being sent to their deaths for a lost cause."

Car Bomb Explodes in Oslo

OSLO, May 2 (AP) — A car bomb exploded early today outside the Norwegian Parliament, smashing dozens of the building's windows. The police said a night watchman was reported injured by flying glass.

MAY 3

30 CENTS

BRITAIN THREATENS TO ATTACK AGAIN IN THE FALKLANDS

LANDING REPORTED

But Argentina's Military Asserts It 'Smashes' Raids From Fleet

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, May 2 — The Argentine military command said today that it "smashed" three British attempts Saturday to land troops on the Falkland Islands by helicopter and shoot down at least five British warplanes.

In a series of communiqués, the Argentine command said that the British fleet had withdrawn from the area and all was calm today after 19 hours of land, air and sea battles that did not break off until almost midnight.

Published reports and a North Atlantic Treaty Organization source here said, however, that the British had succeeded in landing some troops on the islands in the fighting and that they might still be there.

Landed by Helicopters

The independent daily La Prensa said that the troops were landed by Sea King helicopters on a peninsula about 70 miles north of Stanley, the capital. They were last reported fighting Argentine ground troops late last night, the newspaper said.

A communiqué from the Joint Chiefs of Staff said that British troops had attempted to land in that area by helicopters protected by Harriers at about 3:30 P.M. The communiqué said that an earlier attempt was made, at 9:30 A.M., near Darwin, a sheep farming community in the center of the islands about 50 miles west of Stanley.

The communiqué said that anti-aircraft fire drove off the earlier attack and that Pucará anti-guerrilla planes "smashed" the second. The communiqué did not say whether the troops landed or were in any way engaged.

The fighting began with a British bombing run at 4:40 A.M. against the only paved Falklands airfield, two miles outside Stanley, and ended shortly before midnight when, the com-

Continued on Page A12, Column 1

ELATION IN LONDON

Fleet Tells of Increased Air Activity, but No Additional Clashes

By STEVEN RATTNER

LONDON, May 2 — British officials warped today of further military action against Argentine forces and claimed to have scored almost total success in raids Saturday against airfields on the Falkland Islands.

"We shall keep turning the screw," said one senior British official, as a wave of obvious elation swept through the British Government. The reaction today of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, who remained at Chequers, her country residence, was described as "so far, so good."

Although increased Argentine air activity over the Falklands was detected late today, no further military action was reported, and senior British officials tried to discourage reporters here from speculating about the prospect of an imminent full-scale invasion.

'Make Them Think'

"I don't think you should be writing 'massive invasion' at the moment," one official said. "The pattern of our response so far has been to make them think and each time, think a bit more."

At the same time, the official noted that "anything can happen."

Today Mrs. Thatcher offered leaders of the three largest opposition parties a private briefing on the situation, known as "all party talks." Two accepted, but Michael Foot, leader of the Labor Party, declined, leaving the meeting, tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, in doubt.

Ministry of Defense officials reported that one British seaman was wounded, and one ship and one Harrier jet were slightly damaged. They said that Argentine lost at least two and probably three planes and that the islands' two airstrips were put out of service.

2 Ships Reported Damaged

British reporters aboard the Hermes, the aircraft carrier serving as flagship for the task force, said that two British ships — a destroyer and a frigate — were slightly damaged. In addition, they said that Argentine lost at least four and probably six planes.

All the British reports conflicted with Argentine accounts of having downed 11 British planes. When a similar discrepancy arose a week ago during Britain's recapture of South Georgia, the British account proved to be the accurate one.

"All our aircraft and crews returned safely," a Ministry of Defense spokesman said. "Only one ship was damaged."

Continued on Page A12, Column 4

Britain Warns of Further Military Action

Continued From Page 1

and that was only superficial splinter damage."

According to the British account, the action Saturday began before dawn with a bombing raid by a lone Vulcan bomber based at Ascension Island that left 20-foot-deep craters in the runway of the Stanley airstrip.

A few hours later, according to the British version, Harriers strafed ammunition and fuel dumps at the Stanley airfield and at an airstrip at Goose Green, 55 miles west of Stanley.

"This local airstrip was damaged together with a number of Argentine military aircraft parked in its vicinity," a Ministry of Defense spokesman said.

Then came a naval bombardment from about 10 miles offshore by a guided-missile destroyer and two frigates using 4.5-inch guns. The aim was to deter repair work on the Stanley airfield, the British officials said.

Argentina attempted to retaliate with an attack by its Mirage fighters and Canberra bombers, which first dive-bombed the ships and then, having missed, began strafing, according to the British reporters with the fleet.

The Argentine attack was met by Harriers, which downed at least one Mirage and one Canberra. Another Mirage was apparently shot down by Argentine ground fire, according to the British accounts. The seaman and the frigate and perhaps the destroyer were apparently struck during this final encounter Saturday. British officials said the Argentine crewmembers in the downed planes were presumed dead.

Ships Reported West of Islands

With the apparent closing of the Falklands landing strips, the Argentine attacks were mounted from the mainland. Although most of the British naval task force has reportedly been stationed east of Stanley, some ships have been stationed to the west of the Falklands, despite the greater risk, because of the need for detecting Argentine air attacks, British sources said.

During Saturday's battle, British correspondents aboard the Hermes reported that they counted the British planes as they left and then as they returned. Ministry of Defense spokesmen took particular pains to deny Argentine reports that the Hermes had been badly



The New York Times / May 2, 1982

Argentine reports spoke of three attempted British troop landings in the Falklands, one near the town of Darwin and two others near port of Stanley.

damaged, and several British reporters aboard said it was not even attacked.

Today Mrs. Thatcher met for nearly four hours with her special war Cabinet and plans another meeting of the small group Monday. On Tuesday a special meeting of the full Cabinet is planned, along with a statement to the House of Commons by Mrs. Thatcher on the military and diplomatic events.

No New Proposals to Make

Missing from today's meeting of the inner Cabinet was Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, who was in Washington meeting with Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. Mr. Pym was also due in New York for talks with United Nations officials.

However, British officials stressed that they had no new proposals to make for a diplomatic solution and no belief that diplomacy held any special promise at the moment. At the same time, a Ministry of Defense spokesman stressed: "This is not war. This is self-defense in accordance with the United Nations Charter."

John F. Lehman Jr., the American Navy Secretary, was in Britain today on a visit arranged before the Falkland Islands invasion one month ago.

As for the all-party talks, Mr. Foot apparently declined because the terms of the conversation would prevent the party leaders from using the informa-

tion they obtained to attack the Government.

Spokesmen for the Social Democratic Party and the Liberal Party, which form the alliance that has been generally supportive of Mrs. Thatcher's handling of the Falklands crisis, said today they regretted Mr. Foot's decision.

Moscow Denounces Schmidt On U. S. 'Policy of Strength'

MOSCOW, May 2 (AP) — The Soviet Union criticized Chancellor Helmut Schmidt of West Germany today for his allegiance to an American "policy of strength."

The Soviet Communist Party newspaper Pravda said Mr. Schmidt had raised the "bogy of the Soviet menace" as a political defense against "increasingly large numbers of people in West Germany who see that the real threat to peace in Europe stems from the militaristic course of the United States and NATO, with which Bonn is in clear solidarity."

It continued: "Schmidt said, among other things, that President Reagan had already enunciated the position of potential strength, on whose basis 'we can successfully negotiate with the Russians.' Thus it is again the 'position-of-strength' policy."

Argentina Asserts Raids By British Are Defeated

Continued From Page 1

mand said, a helicopter landing attempt near the airport under the cover of darkness was repulsed.

Argentina Reports 'Triumph'

In a communiqué this afternoon, the Joint Chiefs of Staff proclaimed an Argentine "triumph" but advised that the fighting "marks only the beginning of the hostilities."

President Leopoldo Galtieri was quoted by Rodolfo Baltiérrez, the Secretary of Information, as having told an emergency Cabinet meeting today that "Argentina will never raise the white flag."

The military command said that the British battle fleet had withdrawn from the area today. It issued a lengthy communiqué recapitulating Saturday's battle around the Falklands, a British colony seized by Argentina one month ago today.

In the communiqué, the command increased its earlier claim of British

losses and said that five British Harrier jump jets had been downed by ground fire and in dogfights with Argentine planes.

Six other Harriers were hit and presumably downed, it said. The communiqué said that one British missile frigate was badly damaged and three frigates were more lightly hurt in an attack by Argentine planes as the ships closed in to shell the airport outside Stanley around 5 P.M. In a second Argentine air attack against the British ships 15 minutes later, it said, two helicopters were shot down.

Col. Enrique de León, a spokesman for the Joint Chiefs, said that a British pilot had been captured and was being held prisoner on the Falklands. The military has yet to release the name of the pilot, however, despite repeated requests from reporters.

The Government imposed self-censorship on the press Friday, banning the reporting of war news from anything but official sources.

Military spokesmen said that Argentine soldiers were wounded and killed, but the communiqués said only that the number was "not significant."

Private airplane pilots and reservists who served their one-year draft obligation two years ago were reportedly being inducted into service today in an emergency reserve call-up.

Men who served last year were called April 7 in an attempt to quickly increase the strength of the armed forces, estimated at 154,000. The southern half of the country, the part of the mainland nearest the battle zone, has been barred

to all commercial flights since early Saturday.

The string of small, dusty coastal cities and the military bases on the edge of the Patagonian badlands were reported to be blacked out through dawn this morning under the orders of civil defense authorities.

In Tierra del Fuego at the southern tip of the continent, where the desert turns to forested mountains, the armed

forces prohibited all night road traffic between the southernmost city of Ushuaia and the Atlantic port of Rio Grande.

For the first time, the effects of the fighting physically touched Buenos Aires. Early this morning, lights in the port and other "strategic" parts of the city were ordered turned off.

Public reaction to the war was subdued here today. There were separate scattered showings of support by Porte-

nense, Paraguayan and other groups marching through the empty downtown streets.

The Socialist and Communist parties issued statements condemning the British attacks. A group of leaders of different factions of the Peronist party, the country's largest, supported the armed forces, exhorting them in a statement to "battle and take reprisals, giving back, knock for knock, until the invader

learned by the painful experience."

According to a Gallup poll released Friday, political and labor leaders have been steadily pressing for a military promise to step down or share power in return for internal unity. The international affairs commission of a coalition of five of the country's largest parties issued a report today recommending that the parties demand a voice in the Government's decisions in the crisis.



President Leopoldo Galtieri, center, with his Cabinet yesterday in Buenos Aires. At left, in uniform, is Maj. Gen. Alfredo St. Jean, the Interior Minister.

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U.S. Urges Both Sides to Accept Haig's Peace Plan

Continued From Page A1

the 1,800 inhabitants be taken into account.

As explained by the officials, the United States plan would provide for the evacuation of Argentine troops from the Falklands and the end of military threats from Britain.

Joint Rule of Islands

Under the plan, which would be guaranteed by the United States, British administration of the islands would be restored for a brief period. Then Britain

and Argentina would administer the islands jointly.

Negotiations would then begin on the ultimate status of the islands. There would be a provision for taking the views of the inhabitants into consideration, but it would not be a binding referendum as desired by the British. There is no question that in a referendum the islanders, most of whom are of British descent, would choose Britain over Argentina.

Earlier in the day, a White House official told reporters that "the Falklands situation has become much more serious."

Norman Bailey, a senior member of the National Security Council staff, said that "it does appear that Argentina and Britain are on the way to a more generalized armed conflict."

He said the British were preparing for landings on the Falklands while the Argentines were "preparing themselves for a major assault on the British fleet."

A Danger of Fighting

He said there might be some conflict "before they all get back to the negotiating table."

The latest American proposals were sent to both London and Buenos Aires

on Tuesday. They are the outgrowth of Mr. Haig's talks with British and Argentine officials, according to Dean Fischer, the State Department spokesman.

The United States, in sending the proposals, asked Britain to hold off launching a major assault on the Falklands for three days to give diplomacy additional time, according to Mr. Bailey. He said the American request had apparently been accepted tacitly because British naval units seemed to be proceeding at a less-than-urgent pace and were not likely to be ready for an all-out attack before Friday.

Mr. Bailey, in his briefing at a breakfast meeting for reporters, said the Soviet Union could be the major "winner" of the Falklands crisis.

He said the Russians had been provid-

ing Argentina with intelligence information on the British fleet and, no matter what the outcome of the crisis, would be seen in Argentina as a friend.

The United States is trying to avoid being seen in a partisan light, Mr. Bailey said, despite pressures in Congress and elsewhere for the Administration to concede the failure of diplomacy and side with the British.

He said the British had talked to the United States about the possibility of receiving logistical support, such as additional refueling help in the South Atlantic, but no decisions had been made. In case of all-out war, he said, he would not be surprised if the British were given some aid.

Mr. Fischer, in talking to reporters, said Argentina and Britain had not been given any deadlines to respond to

1/5/32

Transcript of Remarks By Haig on Falklands

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 30 — Following is a transcript of remarks by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. at the State Department this morning, as recorded by The New York Times:

The South Atlantic crisis is about to enter a new and dangerous phase in which large-scale military action is likely. I would like to bring you up to date on what we have done and why and what we must do now.

We have made a determined effort to restore peace through implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 502. That resolution calls for an end to hostilities, the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the islands and a diplomatic settlement of the fundamental dispute.

The United States made this extraordinary effort because the stakes in human lives and international order require it. From the outset, the United States has been guided by the basic principles of the rule of law and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The collapse of that principle could only bring chaos and suffering. We also made this effort because the crisis raised the vital issues of hemispheric solidarity at a time when the Communist adversaries seek positions of influence on the mainland of the Americas and latent territorial disputes in much of the hemisphere called for unity and the resolute defense of principle.

Confidence of the Parties

We acted as well because the United States has the confidence of the parties. The United Kingdom is our closest ally, and Prime Minister Thatcher's Government looked to us to pursue a peaceful solution. We have also recently developed a better relationship with Argentina as part of our success in revitalizing the community of American states. President Galtieri also requested our involvement.

Under the direction of President Reagan, I participated in many days of intense discussion with the parties in search of a framework for implementing U.N. Security Council Resolution 502. Our initial aim was to clarify the position of the parties and to offer suggestions on how those positions might be reconciled. We took no position on the merits of either the British or Argentine claims to the islands.

As the prospects for more intense hostilities arose, we put forth an American proposal. It represented our best estimate of what the two parties could reasonably be expected to accept and was based squarely on our own principles and concern for the rule of law. We regard this as a fair and a sound proposal.

The U.S. Proposal

It involves a cessation of hostilities; withdrawal of both Argentine and British forces; termination of sanc-

tions; establishment of a United States, United Kingdom, Argentine interim authority to maintain the agreement; continuation of the traditional local administration with Argentine participation; procedures for encouraging cooperation in the development of the islands, and a framework for negotiations on final settlement taking into account the interests of both sides and the wishes of the inhabitants.

We had reason to hope that the United Kingdom would consider a settlement along the lines of our proposal, but Argentina informed us yesterday that it could not accept it. Argentina's position remains that it must receive an assurance now of eventual sovereignty or an immediate de facto role in governing the islands which would lead to sovereignty. For its part, the British Government has continued to affirm the need to respect the views of the inhabitants in any settlement.

The United States has thus far refrained from adopting measures in response to the seizure of the islands that could have interfered with our ability to work with both sides in the search for peace. The British Government has shown complete understanding for this position.

U.S. Steps Against Argentina

Now, however, in light of Argentina's failure to accept a compromise, we must take concrete steps to underscore that the United States cannot and will not condone the use of unlawful force to resolve disputes. The President has therefore ordered the suspension of all military exports to Argentina, the withholding of certification of Argentine eligibility for military sales, the suspension of new Export-Import Bank credits and guarantees and the suspension of Commodity Credit Corporation guarantees.

The President has also directed that the United States will respond positively to requests for material support for British forces. There will, of course, be no direct U.S. military involvement.

American policy will continue to be guided by our concerns for the rule of law and our desire to facilitate an early and fair settlement. The United States remains ready to assist the parties in finding that settlement.

A strictly military outcome cannot endure over time. In the end, there will have to be a negotiated outcome acceptable to the interested parties — otherwise, we will all face unending hostility and insecurity in the South Atlantic.

Argentina Standing Firm at U.N.

By WILLIAM G. BLAIR
Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 30 — Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez of Argentina said today that his country was "always ready to comply" with a Security Council resolution calling for a cessation of hostilities with Britain, the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falklands and the resolution of the conflict through diplomatic means.

A spokesman for the Argentine Mission to the United Nations said the Foreign Minister's remarks did not represent a change in policy.

At a 10-minute news conference in the lobby of the United Nations Secretariat building, Mr. Costa Méndez reiterated that Argentina was prepared to negotiate all issues in the dispute with Britain except Argentine sovereignty over the islands. This, he declared, "is negotiable."

His statement that Argentina was willing to comply with Resolution 502, which was adopted by the Security Council on April 3, created some confusion at first. Raúl Ricardo, a spokesman for the Argentine mission, ex-

plained later that the Foreign Minister had not meant to suggest that Argentina was prepared to act unilaterally.

Argentine compliance, Mr. Ricardo said, was dependent on an end to "all aggressive acts and measures, including sanctions" taken by Britain since April 2, the day Argentina occupied the Falklands.

Mr. Ricardo stressed that the Foreign Minister's remarks, which included a denial that Argentina had rejected the latest United States peace proposals, represented no change in the Argentine position.

Before talking to the press, Mr. Costa Méndez met with Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar of Peru, and the President of the Security Council, Kamanda wa Kamanda of Zaire.

The Foreign Minister did not request further Security Council intervention in the dispute, according to François Giuliani, a United Nations spokesman. The Secretary General also met with the British Ambassador to the United Nations, Sir Anthony Parsons.



Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher leaving 10 Downing Street for a meeting with Conservative Party members.

Latins Fear Move by U.S. Will Harm Relations

By BARBARA CROSSETTE
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 30 — The United States decision to impose sanctions on Argentina and publicly declare its support for Britain is regarded in Latin America as a serious step that will affect United States relations within the hemisphere for some time, according to Latin American officials.

At the same time, Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig's role as a mediator in the Falkland Islands dispute has been questioned.

"Haig is now disqualified," Peru's Minister of Foreign Affairs, Javier Arias Stella, said in Lima. Peru has been a strong supporter of Argentina's claim to the islands.

In Brazil, where economic sanctions against Argentina by European nations, Canada and New Zealand have been condemned, there were comments among officials today that the United States had opened itself to criticism for imposing what one official called a "unilateral boycott."

'This Is a Bad Day'

While awaiting official responses from their governments, Latin American diplomats will not comment publicly about the decision. But privately they say that there has been much discussion of the Administration's moves today and that the reactions to it range from disappointment to anger.

"For Latin America, this is a bad day," one diplomat said here. "This is the first time that the United States has come to the aid of an outside force."

"A country like the United States, which has been propounding the thesis of the Americas for the Americas, now appears to be propounding the thesis of the Americas for Great Britain,"

Peru's Foreign Minister said in Lima.

Among the concerns arising from the Administration's decision, Latin Americans say, is the possibility that the Soviet Union will be able to use the United States decision as a propaganda advantage in convincing nations that the United States cannot be relied on as an ally or supplier of arms. "The Russian propaganda war will now be easier," a diplomat said.

U.S. Offer Assailed

The Reagan Administration has tried to convince Latin American nations that Soviet-inspired insurgencies have threatened Central America and South America. Several diplomats spoke bitterly about the irony of Washington talking about the possibility of Soviet MIG aircraft being introduced in Nicaragua while offering material support to a large British fleet in the South Atlantic.

Reaction to the Administration's move is expected to be especially sharp from Venezuela, which argued last week in the Organization of American States on behalf of Argentina and against the British. The Venezuelan Government was reported preparing a public statement for release later today.

Venezuela has been a supporter of the Administration's policy of backing the electoral process in El Salvador. It has also joined the United States, Mexico, Canada and Colombia in producing development plans for the Caribbean region.

It was only among the Caribbean nations in the O.A.S. that Britain found any measure of support for its insistence that the self-determination of the Falkland Islanders must guide discussions and actions in the crisis. Among

Latin American nations Nicaragua, for example, has argued that people planted by a colonial power have no rights to self-determination.

Caribbean diplomats and officials have seen in the discussion of the Falkland Islands crisis a reflection of a centuries-old conflict between Spain and Britain. They believe that Latin Americans see themselves as the inheritors of the Spanish Empire — culturally as well as geographically — and have carried on the crusade against London.

Even among Latin nations critical of Argentina's use of force in this dispute, and critical also of Argentina's military Government and its bad record in human rights, there is universal support for Argentina's claim to the islands, which all Latin nations call the Malvinas.

There is also a deeply held feeling of hemisphere solidarity, and a longstanding suspicion that the United States was always on the margins of that sense of community, using the O.A.S. when it was politically or strategically necessary.

That belief was reiterated today by a Latin diplomat who said that the action taken by Washington was badly timed, coming as it did just after an O.A.S. resolution on the crisis had been passed.

Text of Falkland Resolution

Following is the text of United Nations Security Council Resolution 502 on the Falkland Islands crisis, which was approved on April 3 by a vote of 10 to 1, with four abstentions:

THE SECURITY COUNCIL,
RECALLING the statement made by the President of the Security Council on 1 April 1982 calling on the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom to refrain from the use of

force in the region of the Falkland Islands,

DEEPLY DISTURBED at reports of an invasion on 2 April 1982 by armed forces of Argentina,

DETERMINING that there exists a

breach of peace in the region of the Falkland Islands,

1. DEMANDS an immediate cessation of hostilities;
2. DEMANDS an immediate withdrawal of all Argentine forces from the Falkland Islands;
3. CALLS on the Governments of Argentina and the United Kingdom to seek a diplomatic solution to their difference and to respect fully the purpose and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

N.H.T. 1/5/82

Floods at Indonesia Volcano

JAKARTA, Indonesia, April 30 (AP) — Floods swept away at least 24 abandoned houses Thursday at the base of the Galunggung volcano in West Java. The authorities said no one was injured. Most people have deserted the area, 180 miles southeast of here, since the 9,154-foot volcano erupted on April 4, killing at least 15 people.

Mr. Haig read a statement saying the United States sympathized to the people of Argentina and that Britain's failure to accept a compromise was a failure to accept a compromise. Now, however, in light of Argentina's failure to accept a compromise, the United States will not condone the use of unilateral force. The United States will not condone the use of unilateral force. The United States will not condone the use of unilateral force.

U.S. Aides Call the Sanctions Symbolic

By BERNARD WEINRAUB

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 30 — The Reagan Administration's economic and military sanctions against Argentina will have little practical effect, State Department and Pentagon officials said today.

After Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. announced that the United States had decided to come down firmly on the side of its longtime ally, Britain, in the Falklands crisis, Administration officials made it plain that the sanctions imposed against Argentina were designed mostly for political purposes.

"In practical terms the full panoply of American economic or trade or financial leverage may not be instrumental in changing the situation," a ranking State Department official told reporters. "Our signals are essentially political."

The Administration's decision affects \$1.9 million in arms sales to Argentina, mostly spare parts and small equipment. "It's pretty insignificant stuff," a Pentagon official said. "I don't think it's anything that the Argentines are paying for."

Carter Ended Arms Sales

Officials said the equipment itself had been purchased before 1978, when the Carter Administration ended the small amount of arms sales that were being made to Argentina, citing its human rights record.

Despite the announced sanctions, Administration officials indicated that, for the moment, the economic relationship between Argentina and the United States would remain largely untouched. Last year Argentina was the fourth largest market for United States exports in Latin America, buying more than \$2.1 billion of American construction equipment, organic chemicals and automotive parts.

The United States' imports from Argentina last year totaled \$1.1 billion, mostly meat and petroleum products and leather.

In announcing the sanctions, the State Department said existing Export-Import Bank loans "will not be affected by the determination." At the same time officials said the Administration would "cancel authorization" for a credit to Argentina totaling \$2 million in guarantees for soft wood lumber purchases. The credit was arranged by the Agriculture Department's Commodity Credit Corporation.

The State Department said the impact of the credit cancellation was "not harmful."

One State Department official said the impact of the sanctions announcement was "symbolic and psychological." The official said that in imposing the sanctions, the Reagan Administration implied that future Export-Import Bank loans would be threatened unless Argentina resolved the Falklands dispute with Britain. There are now a total

of \$1 billion of credits in Argentina extended or guaranteed by the Export-Import Bank.

"The sanctions are, in fact, a threat, something that deals with the potential for what can happen," the official said.

Officials pointed out that, at the moment, the Export-Import Bank had made a "contingent commitment" to Argentina of \$138 million that could be canceled if President Reagan decided to do so.

The senior State Department official who spoke to reporters said of the economic moves imposed by the Administration: "Clearly there are many additional steps which the United States could take and is prepared to take if circumstances require."

"It is important to recognize that the United States at some future time, in

another phase, could play a constructive role."

The official added: "What is important is the political signal that has been sent which laid responsibility on the Government of Argentina for failure in this phase, and confirmation that the United States will now change what has been a more balanced posture with respect to the crisis."

The Administration's relatively muted moves against Argentina contrast with the decision by the European Economic Community, which has approved a total ban on imports from Argentina — the stiffest punitive measure taken by the 10-nation Common Market in its 25-year history. The measure has meant a loss for Argentina of as much as \$40 million each week in trade with Western Europe.

U.S. Corporations Concerned About Argentine Subsidiaries

By DYLAN LANDIS

As rumblings of anti-American sentiment are heard in Argentina, American businessmen with subsidiaries there are growing increasingly concerned about their visibility. Ford, Xerox, PepsiCo, Coca-Cola and Goodyear are just a few of the more than 200 American companies that do business there, peppering Argentine cities with American trademarks.

Despite that visibility, American companies with Argentine offices said publicly yesterday that they expected little disruption of those operations resulting from the economic sanctions against Argentina announced earlier in the day by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. And none of the companies queried have asked their American employees to return.

Privately, however, some executive voiced anxiety. Companies have tightened travel restrictions to Argentina, and kept their secretaries on the telephones for up to an hour at a time, several times a day, for status reports from those offices.

"I think with the new sanctions this morning, anything within the 200-mile zone" of the Falkland Islands "could be cause for fire," Dale Frye, manager of corporate security for Miles Laboratories, which has a sales office in Buenos Aires, said yesterday. "Unless we have good reason to do otherwise, we are restricting travel to Argentina now," he said.

Large Argentine Staff

But Miles, like most other companies operating in Argentina, contends it is shielded from anti-American sentiment because of an almost exclusively Argentine staff.

"Our company there has no Americans — all our employees are nationals," said Thomas Abbott, a spokesman for the Xerox Corporation. "If we had a lot of United States citizens there, we might have a different feeling."

"We just celebrated our 70th anniversary of doing business down there," said Alfredo N. Vela, public affairs manager for Esao Interamerica Inc., an Exxon Corporation unit. Exxon has the second-largest American subsidiary in Argentina, trailing only the Ford Motor Company in sales. "Our president is Argentine," Mr. Vela said. "All our employees are Argentine. We're basically an Argentine company."

Nevertheless, there is some apprehension. "I think there always has to be some fear of sabotage," said one executive here, who insisted on anonymity. "I spoke with our people there, and they say the people on the streets are getting very anti-American."

"So far," the executive said, "the situation is normal, but it only takes one bothead to throw something at somebody and start something big."

However, most companies said it was too early to determine what effects, if any, Mr. Haig's announcements might have on their operations.

"The situation is changing rapidly," said Fred Steinberg, a spokesman for the International Business Machines Corporation, which has the third-largest Argentine subsidiary in terms of sales, but no Americans among its 2,500 employees there. "We're concerned about the possible effect on any of our people there," Mr. Steinberg said, "but it's just too early to make any speculations of what might happen."

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New York Times

SDAY, APRIL 29, 1982—

30 CENTS

Weather: Mostly sunny and mild, north-easterly winds today; mostly clear and cool tonight. Mostly sunny tomorrow. Temperatures: today 60-65, tonight 44-46, yesterday 42-58. Details, page D22.

BRITAIN IMPOSING BLOCKADE OF ALL SHIPPING AND FLIGHTS NEAR FALKLANDS TOMORROW



The New York Times / April 29, 1982

U.S. Calls on Both Sides to Accept Haig's Plan to Avert a Major War

By BERNARD GWEITZMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 28 — The United States made an urgent appeal today to Argentina and Britain to accept a new set of American proposals for averting a major military confrontation over the Falkland Islands.

Warning again that "the crisis has reached a critical point," the Reagan Administration said Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. was ready to resume his diplomatic shuttle immediately if that would help bring about a solution.

Although the situation was described as grim, Administration officials said they were encouraged by Mr. Haig's talks this afternoon with the Argentine Foreign Minister, Nicolas Costa Mendez.

The officials said Mr. Costa Mendez came to the State Department to tell Mr. Haig that Argentina had not rejected the latest American proposals and that he expected a formal response to them shortly.

His remarks, along with similar reports from Buenos Aires, suggested that the threat of an imminent major clash was leading the Argentine junta to give more serious consideration to a diplomatic solution.

In Washington, the Organization of American States gave final approval to a resolution that supported Argentine's

Text of O.A.S. resolution, page A19.

claim of sovereignty over the Falklands but urged Britain and Argentina to call a truce and withdraw their forces. (Page A19.)

Mr. Haig, concerned that Congress might upset his diplomatic efforts by passing a resolution siding with Britain in the dispute, went to Capitol Hill late this afternoon to give an unusual, closed-door briefing to the entire Senate.

The American proposals, according to Administration officials, are based on trying to overcome the conflicting British and Argentine positions on sovereignty over the Falklands. Argentina has insisted on assurances of sovereignty before engaging in negotiations. Britain has demanded that the will of

TROOPS ARE ASHORE

London Says Every Nation Must Take Account of the 'No-Go' Zone

By R. W. APPLE JR.

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, April 28 — Britain announced today that it would impose a total sea and air blockade around the Falkland Islands on Friday.

The announcement of the blockade, which applies to all ships and planes, civil and military, of all nations, came as both countries weighed a last-minute peace plan submitted by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.

According to British and American sources, the plan contained no guarantee of ultimate Argentine sovereignty and no pledge of self-determination for the Falkland Islanders. It is therefore considered unlikely to win acceptance either in Buenos Aires or in London.

But in Buenos Aires, the junta today overrode earlier statements that the latest United States proposal for a settlement of the crisis was unacceptable and announced that the plan was under study. (Page A14.)

Some Troops Have Landed

British military planners, meanwhile, also confirmed that small troop units had already been put ashore in the Falklands, which have been held by the Argentines since April 2. Their task is to pave the way for the large-scale invasion that is expected soon. The junta in Buenos Aires predicted today that major landings of some sort would occur in the next 24 to 48 hours.

Military analysts in Britain anticipate that the first strike will be made in a remote area of the South Atlantic archipelago, well away from the main concentrations of Argentine troops. The islands, which are roughly the same size as Connecticut, offer many potential landing sites.

Huge Waves Reported

By announcing the blockade and setting the stage for a military showdown with the Argentines, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's Government indirectly confirmed that the main portion of the British task force had reached its destination. Enforcement of an air blockade will require the surface-to-air missiles carried by the fleet's destroyers and frigates and the Harrier jets based on its two carriers.

Reports from the fleet said it was battling mountainous seas. A BBC news correspondent radioed that the waves were so high that they occasionally lifted the sterns of the frigates completely clear of the water, leaving their propellers spinning futilely in the air.

The British Defense Ministry said the

Continued on Page A12, Column 1

Continued on Page A12, Column 2

Crisis in the Falklands: In the Common Market, the Cheering Stops

Europe's Mood Changes
As More Action LoomsBy RICHARD EDEK
Special to The New York Times

PARIS, April 23 — For the rest of Europe, the rationale for the gradual progress of the British fleet toward the Falkland Islands has always been similar to the rationale for a nuclear deterrent: the point was not to use it.

In the days after the Argentine landing, Britain's European partners gave unqualified support to its vigorous reaction. Now that the fleet has arrived and seems about to go into action, the mood has changed. Britain's allies still support London publicly — the latest official backing was registered on Tuesday at a European Economic Community meeting in Luxembourg — but the cheering has stopped.

A cartoon in today's *Le Monde* expresses it. Alexander M. Haig Jr. has moved his negotiating table to the bottom of the sea and gloomily waits for the Argentine and British ships above him to destroy each other and sink to talking level.

Britain was right, West Germany's *Süddeutsche Zeitung* said today, but it added that this did not remove the fact that an absurdity was turning into a tragedy. "If London does not want to gamble away international good will," it continued, "it can seek only a peaceful solution — with the aid of the U.S., the Europeans or the U.N."

Similar to British Position

At the Luxembourg meeting, Belgium's Foreign Minister, Leo Tindemans, while announcing that the Common Market continued to support Britain, stressed the need to find a diplomatic solution. The substance of his words was no different, technically, from what the British are saying, but the emphasis was different.

The Italian Foreign Minister, Emilio Colombo, supporting this emphasis, noted that Italy would be in a difficult position if British troops were used against Argentina, many of whom are of Italian stock.

Italian Foreign Ministry sources said that Italy would continue to hope "until the last minute that mediation will succeed," but they would not speculate on what the position would be if matters deteriorated.

The French Government has not budged from its initial, unequivocal support for firm British action. Neither has the West German Government, officially, but Bonn officials say that an outbreak of hostilities — beyond the Sunday skirmish on South Georgia — would cause a rethinking of the situation. West Germany is Argentina's biggest trade partner in Europe and a principal supplier of weapons. Not long ago

the West German Government stopped calling the disputed territory the Falklands and began referring to it as the Falklands-Malvinas. Although the official explanation was that this brought the terminology in line with that of the United Nations, officials did not hide the fact that it was intended as a gesture to the Argentines.

Number of Reasons for Change

If the initial support was wholehearted, it is now halfhearted, and there are a number of reasons for it.

Originally, there was the fact that Britain is an ally and that Argentina is, politically and geographically, remote from most of the European nations. There is also the fact that, whatever the respective historical claims, Argentina is counted the aggressor. In the case of the French, there was the additional reflection that if small bits of former empires are to be seized by third world countries because of geographical proximity, France could face its own problems.

The notion that a member of the Western Alliance, demoralized by internal wrangling and economic crisis, could muster its forces to respond to an attack was seen as an encouraging example, as well.

However, all this support depended to some degree on the apparent uncertainty of any serious demonstration. Britain's mobilizing of its forces was seen as a way of compelling negotiations, not of replacing them.

"War Between Invalids"

There is no sense among Britain's European allies of just what actual fighting, as against the threat of it, will accomplish. European newspapers are reporting the growth of intransigence in Argentina and of a popular mood that clearly threatens the military Government if it does not stand as fast as it can.

The sense of unhappy choices has not totally replaced the tendency to stress what is seen as the ludicrous nature of the confrontation. "A war between invalids," the newspaper *L'Echo* called it, referring to the economic feebleness of which both sides were constructing their warfare.

But the comments have grown steadily grimmer. "It is easy to start a war," *Le Monde* wrote this week. "It is much harder to stop it. Especially when emotional and irrational factors are involved in the quarrel, which is plainly the case in the dialogue of the deaf now going on between Britain and Argentina."



British Army maneuvers being conducted recently in Brecon Beacons, Wales, reportedly in preparation for action in the Falkland Islands.

British Imposing a Total Blockade Around Falklands

Continued From Page 1

blockade, an intensification of the "maritime exclusion zone" established 16 days ago, would go into effect at noon Friday, London time (7 A.M., New York time). It warned that any ship or plane entering the "no-go" area, any ship in the harbor at Stanley, the Falklands capital, and any plane on the ground at the Falklands airstrip would be "regarded as hostile and will be liable to be attacked." Asked about Soviet ships that have trailed the British force in its 9,000-mile voyage to the South Atlantic, a Defense Ministry spokesman said, "Every nation must take account of the zone."

As the 20-day-old crisis moved toward a climax, there were other developments. Opposition support for the Prime Minister's strategy eroded significantly, with the Labor Party's governing body, the National Executive Committee, unanimously approving a motion urging Mrs. Thatcher to avoid any further military step-up.

One of the almost 200 Argentine prisoners seized in the British recapture Monday of South Georgia Island, 800 miles east of the Falklands, was said by the Defense Ministry to have died in "a serious incident." No details were given, but a board of inquiry is to investigate the episode.

Britain's allies in Europe, who have

voted economic sanctions against Argentina, were reported to be urging Mrs. Thatcher to continue to seek a peaceful settlement and to be cautioning her that they might have to re-evaluate their position if an all-out war were to develop.

Admiral Criticized for Comment

Government sources said Rear Admiral John F. Woodward, the commander of the task force, had been chastised for having told reporters aboard his flagship that he expected an easy victory over Argentina in any clash.

Augmentation for the British force, which now includes at least 60 ships, continued with the dispatch of four deep-sea fishing trawlers that were hurriedly converted into minesweepers after the Argentines announced that they had mined the approaches to the islands.

The intention of Britain's new blockade is to isolate the Argentine garrison in the Falklands, which is thought to include at least 10,000 troops and perhaps as many as 10,000. For the last two weeks, they have been resupplied and reinforced by Hercules transport planes. An attempt may also be made to jam the radio and telephone links with the junta in Buenos Aires.

"They're Eating the Cats"

As with previous military steps, Mrs. Thatcher is hoping to weaken the garrison's morale and perhaps to force President Leopoldo Galtieri and his colleagues to reconsider their refusal to

evacuate the Falklands. A letter from an islander, Sue Giles Whitely, smuggled out of the Falklands and made public here today, said the occupying troops were already so hungry that "they're eating the cats and, we suspect, horses too."

If the blockade succeeds in luring the Argentine fleet from its present protected position in mainland ports and along the coast, that will also be well served in Downing Street, officials said.

Gen. Basilio Lami Dozo, the Argentine Air Force commander, who is a member of the junta, said several days ago that an air blockade would be "equal to a declaration of war." One of Mrs. Thatcher's aides said today, "We haven't declared war on Argentina and we won't do so, but I wouldn't exactly describe us as being in a state of peace."

Pym Cancels Trip to France

The blockade, as well as plans for an assault on the Falklands, was discussed this morning at two 75-minute meetings — the first a gathering of the five-member crisis cabinet, the second a session of the Cabinet as a whole. Underlying the rapidly mounting tension in Whitehall, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym canceled plans to fly to Strasbourg, France, for a meeting of the Council of Europe.

Mr. Pym's deputy, Douglas Hurd, made the trip instead and told the council's parliamentary assembly that the strengthened blockade was not meant

to halt the search for a negotiated settlement of the dispute.

But the Government appeared to harbor little hope that the Haig plan, described here as a refinement of terms already proposed informally to Mr. Pym, would provide the way out. In an attempt to put the onus of rejection on Argentina, no official comment was made, Foreign Office sources said, and there would be no British suggestion that Mr. Haig's peace initiative had reached a dead end.

"There's hope, of course," one of Mrs. Thatcher's colleagues said, "but there's a big difference between that and optimism."

The Government is confident that if Argentina rejects the proposals, the Reagan Administration will move to support Britain with economic sanctions and perhaps even limited military aid. Mrs. Thatcher said on television Monday night that "Mr. Haig, I think, has made it abundantly clear that if the negotiations do not succeed the United States, one of the great democracies of the world, would be on the side of Britain."

U.S. Team Meets Hussein

AMMAN, Jordan, April 23 (Reuters) — A United States military mission led by Assistant Secretary of Defense Francis J. West Jr. met today with King Hussein of Jordan, officials said, but no details were made public. The mission arrived here late Tuesday night.

U.S. Urges Both Sides to Accept Haig's Peace Plan

Continued From Page A1

the 1,800 inhabitants be taken into account.

As explained by the officials, the United States plan would provide for the evacuation of Argentine troops from the Falklands and the end of military threats from Britain.

Joint Rule of Islands

Under the plan, which would be guaranteed by the United States, British administration of the islands would be restored for a brief period. Then Britain

and Argentina would administer the islands jointly.

Negotiations would then begin on the ultimate status of the islands. There would be a provision for taking the views of the inhabitants into consideration, but it would not be a binding referendum as desired by the British. There is no question that in a referendum the islanders, most of whom are of British descent, would choose Britain over Argentina.

Earlier in the day, a White House official told reporters that "the Falklands situation has become much more serious."

Norman Bailey, a senior member of the National Security Council staff, said that "it does appear that Argentina and Britain are on the way to a more generalized armed conflict."

He said the British were preparing for landings on the Falklands while the Argentines were "preparing themselves for a major assault on the British fleet."

A Danger of Fighting

He said there might be some conflict "before they all get back to the negotiating table."

The latest American proposals were sent to both London and Buenos Aires

on Tuesday. They are the outgrowth of Mr. Haig's talks with British and Argentine officials, according to Dean Fischer, the State Department spokesman.

The United States, in sending the proposals, asked Britain to hold off launching a major assault on the Falklands for three days to give diplomacy additional time, according to Mr. Bailey. He said the American request had apparently been accepted tacitly because British naval units seemed to be proceeding at a less-than-urgent pace and were not likely to be ready for an all-out attack before Friday.

Mr. Bailey, in his briefing at a break last meeting for reporters, said the Soviet Union could be the major "winner" of the Falklands crisis.

He said the Russians had been provid-

ing Argentina with intelligence information on the British fleet and, no matter what the outcome of the crisis, would be seen in Argentina as a friend.

The United States is trying to avoid being seen in a partisan light, Mr. Bailey said, despite pressures in Congress and elsewhere for the Administration to concede the failure of diplomacy and side with the British.

He said the British had talked to the United States about the possibility of receiving logistical support, such as additional refueling help in the South Atlantic, but no decisions had been made. In case of all-out war, he said, he would not be surprised if the British were given some aid.

Mr. Fischer, in talking to reporters, said Argentina and Britain had not been given any deadlines to respond to the

American proposals.

He said, however, that the movement of military forces in the region "posed a greater danger of further escalation of the conflict."

In the Senate, a debate broke out on the floor when Senator Joseph R. Biden Jr., Democrat of Delaware, tried to get a vote on an amendment to align the United States with Britain.

But the Republican whip, Ted Stevens of Alaska, argued against a hasty "Gulf of Tonkin" resolution and succeeded in deferring action. He was referring to the resolution passed in August 1964 after the United States had charged that an American destroyer was fired on by North Vietnamese gunboats. That measure gave President Lyndon B. Johnson power to retaliate in any way he wanted.

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ARGENTINES STUDY A U.S. PEACE PLAN

Had Called It Unacceptable —
Nation Is Told to Expect a
British Attack in Hours

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, April 28 — With the British task force approaching its battle position off the Falklands, the Argentine

junta today overruled earlier official statements that the latest United States peace plan was unacceptable and announced that it was under study.

Senior officials and Western diplomats said Argentina was also considering turning to the United Nations in the hope of finding some peaceful way to head off the threatened British invasion of the Falklands.

Meanwhile, the junta moved to prepare Argentines for war, warning in a communiqué to the nation that it "foresees the execution of military operations" by the British in the Falklands in the next 24 to 48 hours.

Argentine officials and Western diplomats said the Argentine military had concluded that Britain could achieve a military victory if it was willing to pay the price. The military is becoming more and more convinced, the sources added, that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is willing.

The sudden change in Argentina's position on the United States proposal was apparently also related to its failure to obtain little more than moderate political support in an emergency meeting of the Organization of American States in Washington.

The foreign ministers of the Rio Pact countries approved a resolution early today favoring Argentina's position in the dispute, but Argentina had hoped at least for economic sanctions against Britain.

The British Defense Ministry underscored British firmness in the dispute today when it declared a "total exclusion zone" around the Falkland Islands beginning Friday. This would expand a similar maritime zone that went into effect on April 12 to include all Argentine planes that come within 200 miles of the archipelago and any on the ground there.

The bulk of the British battle fleet is expected to arrive on battle station tonight, within striking range of the islands that Argentina seized April 2.

Despite the junta's growing desire for a diplomatic solution, there was little indication that it was willing to make a major concession on the crucial issue of sovereignty over the islands.

The American Plan

"Notwithstanding its traditional spirit to peacefully resolve its differences," the junta said in today's communiqué, "the Government and the Argentine people, convinced of the legitimacy of their rights and the justice of the cause they defend, maintain their fighting spirit and faith in final victory unbroken."

State Department officials said in Washington today that the peace plan delivered here Tuesday by Ambassador Harry W. Shlaudeman was the same plan Foreign Secretary Francis Pym took to London on Friday.

Argentine officials complained that it fell short of the guaranteed sovereignty over the islands that they demand.

British officials have said that it falls short of their demand for a restoration of British sovereignty to let the 1,800 islanders decide the future of the islands.

The proposal reportedly focuses on obtaining the withdrawal of Argentine forces and establishing a joint administration without diminishing Argentina's claims to sovereignty.

On Tuesday, Argentina rejected a request by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. for his return to Buenos Aires to resume his mediation efforts. One reason was said to be increasing anger in the armed forces, which were accusing him of favoring the British position.

Peru Sends Planes to Argentina

In other developments, Western diplomats said today that Peru recently sent some of its 36 Soviet-made Sukhoi-22 attack fighters to aid Argentina. The planes were reported to be at an air base in Mendoza, 200 miles west of Buenos Aires, near the Chilean border.

The informants said, however, that the planes appear to be more a symbol of support by the Peruvian military acting independently of President Fernando Belaúnde Terry. The diplomats said the Argentines were not trained to fly the Soviet planes and the Peruvian pilots had returned home, though presumably they could come back in case of conflict.

The Peruvian planes are said to be in poor condition because of maintenance. They can carry 11,000 pounds of bombs, rockets and air-to-ground missiles.

In another demonstration of solidarity, workers at Lima's international airport said today that they would not handle any British commercial aircraft. On Tuesday, Peruvian longshoremen refused to unload a British ship.

Another sign of greater involvement of third countries in the conflict was revealed today when a British Defense Ministry spokesman said Chile had agreed to let the British fleet use a tanker Chile has just bought from Britain. It was en route across the Atlantic. Chile has its own territorial dispute with Argentina at the tip of the continent and abstained in the O.A.S. vote today.

The military today went on full combat alert throughout the country. The Argentine Navy is reportedly hugging the southern coast, staying under the cover of land-based planes.

Military officers say the Argentine strategy remains one of waiting for the right time and place to attack, until the British fleet moves inside the combat radius of Argentina's planes. Its main attack planes, the 68 American-built A-4 Skyhawks, have a combat radius of about 400 miles, which from the mainland airfields reaches to just east of the Falklands.

U.S. Sees Little Falklands Hope

No Movement Reported in Peace Bid; Argentine Aide Going Home

By OSWALD JOHNSTON, Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—With the British air-and-sea blockade going into effect this morning and Argentina proclaiming a war zone of its own, the Reagan Administration on Thursday said but conceded the failure of its peace efforts in the Falkland Islands crisis, declaring "there is very little basis for optimism" that war can be averted in the South Atlantic.

"The situation remains very serious," spokesmen at both the White House and State Department said in identical statements. "There is no movement. However, we remain in touch with both parties."

State Department spokesman Dean Fischer said that "There is very little basis for optimism . . . that a peaceful resolution can be achieved." That, he said, is Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.'s personal assessment of the situation.

Costa Mendez in New York

Argentine Foreign Minister Nicolino Costa Mendez, who met Haig late Wednesday and promised an answer "as soon as possible" to a final U.S. compromise proposal, flew to New York on Thursday without seeing Haig again. An Argentine Embassy spokesman said Costa Mendez plans to return to Argentina today.

Later Thursday, Argentina's official Telam news agency reported that the Argentine ambassador in Washington, Esteban Taxera, delivered a reply to Assistant Secretary of State Thomas O. Enders. It said the proposal was unsatisfactory and called for "further clarifications," Telam reported. State Department officials confirmed that Enders met with the ambassador about midday.

Later, in a closed briefing on Capitol Hill, Haig told the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the bipartisan leadership of the House that the situation looked bad and that an outbreak of fighting seemed imminent, committee members said.

"There were no new developments that would lead you to be any more optimistic" than that, R. p. John LeBoutillier (R-N.Y.) said after the briefing. "The whole question here is the national honor of both countries. (Haig) still thought a diplomatic solution would end up happening some time—but whether that's before, during or after the fighting, who knows?"

As the declared deadline arrived for Britain's air and sea blockade of the Argentine-occupied islands it appeared that fighting was more likely than renewed talking.

Public statements in both Britain and Argentina indicated that Haig's most recent, and perhaps final, proposal for averting war has fallen short in both capitals. Officials here believe it is up to Argentina to make the first move, and there was no concrete sign that Costa Mendez was prepared to relay a positive answer to Haig.

Ripe for Attack

In London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher told an emergency session of Parliament that the "total exclusion zone," extending 200 miles from the islands, would leave the disputed territory "totally isolated"—and presumably ripe for the long-expected British attack.

She rejected proposals of the Labor Party opposition to turn to the United Nations or the International Court of Justice upon the collapse of the Haig mediation effort. Instead, she seemed prepared to attempt to take back the islands by force.

"Gentle persuasion is not going to make the Argentine government give up what it has seized by force," Thatcher said. "The key to peace is in the hands of the Argentine government. The responsibility is theirs."

Left-wing Labor member Roy Race asked Thatcher to answer the question: "How many British and Argentine soldiers and Falklanders

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FALKLANDS: Little Hope Seen by U.S.

Continued from First Page

she is prepared to see killed in order to establish sovereignty, which will later be conceded in negotiations?"

The prime minister replied: "There is one thing that is more important than peace—that is liberty and justice. If someone had not fought to establish that for us, you could not even have asked me that question."

For nearly three weeks, Haig has tried to frame a compromise in which the Argentines would withdraw from the Falkland Islands, which they seized April 2, the British would turn back their naval task force, and both sides would be able to claim that fundamental interests had been salvaged.

But Argentina has insisted on a prior guarantee of sovereignty over the islands, a British colony since 1833, and the British have insisted on self-determination for the Falklands' 1,800 English-speaking inhabitants. A bridge between those positions has thus far proved impossible to build.

According to reports from Times correspondents Kenneth Freed in Buenos Aires and William Tuohy in London, Haig's most recent proposal fell short in both respects.

It provided for eventual negotiation of the sovereignty issue, but did not offer the flat assurance that it would be decided in Argentina's favor, which the military junta in Buenos Aires says it must have. The Haig plan also provided for a referendum of the Falklanders, but did not make the result of that referendum—certain to go in Britain's favor—binding.

Argentina and Britain also differed over the time needed for a transfer of sovereignty.

Joint Administration Period

Britain wanted to stretch out for five years a transition period of joint British-Argentine administration under some kind of U.S. supervision. Argentina wanted sole ownership of the islands, called Malvinas by Argentina, by the end of this December.

Accordingly, reports from Buenos Aires have almost uniformly predicted that the latest Haig proposals will be turned down, and the local newspapers have begun to concentrate attention on the imminence of war, saying for the past three days that it could start "within 24 to 48 hours."

The intense effort of Argentina's military regime to whip up war fever was reflected in screaming black headlines in the privately owned but government-influenced press, and in patriotic slogans on the national radio and television.

The public's mood, Fried reported, seemed at times oblivious, at other times apprehensive.

During the first two weeks after Argentina seized the islands that it has claimed since 1818 there was an air of confidence and festive anticipation. But there has been a return to reality.

Many of the blue-and-white Argentine flags that were draped from every office window in the crowded

business district have been removed. Those remaining seem limp and grimy.

The shock of Britain's successful recapture of South Georgia Island last Sunday took the life out of the celebration in Buenos Aires, and when people now gather in

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Los Angeles Times

FALKLANDS: No Movement Noted in Peace Bid

Continued from 8th Page

knots on downtown shopping promenades to talk about the crisis, it is in worried tones.

In conversations with Americans, many Argentines speak resignedly of an expected defeat in battle. They already blame the United States for not supporting Argentina in regaining what all Argentines are taught from grade school to be their birthright.

In contrast to a tendency in Britain to blame the United States for official impartiality during its mediation effort, the drift in Argentina all along has been to accuse Haig of siding with the British.

For the most part, the Argentines' instincts about the underlying U.S. attitude have been correct. Haig is reported by sources close to his mediation effort to have

made it clear to Argentine President Leopoldo F. Galtieri that the United States, in the last analysis, believes Argentina committed an act of aggression when it seized the islands and that Washington will be true to its long-standing alliance with Britain.

Haig has begun to tell associates in the Administration and senators in closed-door briefings that the junta shares few values with the United States and cannot be dealt with as a completely trustworthy, or even rational, negotiating partner.

Haig is also reported to be ready to give a public account of his gruelling mediation effort once it has clearly failed, an account likely to give an unflattering picture of Argentine negotiating tactics.

The Reagan Administration had no public comment Thursday when both the House and the Senate took action on resolutions calling on the United States to back Britain should the mediation effort fail and fighting break out. Privately, Administration officials said they have no objection.

In London, a Foreign Office spokesman said Thursday that, with the definite end of the Haig mediation effort, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym will take the position that "the United States cannot be neutral between an aggressor and a victim."

The Foreign Office said that Britain will not expect U.S. military assistance in its South Atlantic campaign but that in Pym's view, U.S. economic sanctions against Argentina will be "the firm British expectation."

Fischer, the State Department spokesman, said that no warnings have been issued so far to U.S. citizens in Argentina in the face of a possible anti-U.S. swing in public opinion there. But sources in Buenos Aires have confirmed that the U.S. Embassy there has shipped documents to Montevideo and has for two weeks been prepared to destroy all remaining classified material within 60 minutes.

Another probability is an overt Argentine appeal for political and even military aid from the Soviet Union, now Argentina's largest trading partner. Haig reportedly told the Senate in a closed session Wednesday that Costa Mendez warned him of such a step if war breaks out.

Haig is said to have replied that the United States would take steps to keep the Soviets at arms length.

Haig told the House committee Thursday afternoon that Cuba's ambassador to Argentina, who had been absent for more than a year, returned to Buenos Aires three weeks ago "with a plenipotentiary of technical experts who marched into Galtieri's office and told him the Cubans and Soviets would give the Argentines anything they wanted," Rep. LeBoutillier told The Times.

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Argentina Declares Own Blockade Zone

By KENNETH FURD, Times Staff Writer

Buenos Aires — Argentina on Thursday announced an immediate blockade zone of its own in the Falklands crisis, saying any British ship or plane, military or civilian, will be subject to attack if it comes within 200 miles of the Argentine mainland, the Falkland Islands, South Georgia Island or the South Sandwich Islands.

Issued in response to the British

blockade of the Falklands due to go into effect this morning, the Argentine announcement seemed to be signaling at least a psychological escalation of the conflict over Argentine occupation of the islands.

The announcement, released as a communique of the ruling military junta, stopped short of saying directly that Argentine forces will shoot at British intruders, but it said

any British planes or ships in the zone will suffer "the consequences."

'Shoot If Not' Statement

However, Argentine military officials have been saying for several days that their forces will "shoot first" if confronted by British units.

"This seems to be an attempt to show that they can't be pressured,"

said one source, pointing out that Argentina does not have enough forces in the area to enforce its threat and that Britain controls South Georgia, recaptured from Argentina last Sunday.

Also, the quarantined area evidently leaves a gap of about 400 miles between the Falklands and South Georgia about 800 miles to the southeast. Much of the 60 ship British task force sent in response to the April 2 takeover of the Falklands is now within that gap, intelligence sources here believe.

British Asked to Quiz Argentine on Missing Swedish Girl

STOCKHOLM (UPI)—A Foreign Ministry spokesman said Thursday that Sweden has asked Britain to question the captured Argentine army commander of South Georgia Island about the alleged 1977 shooting and disappearance of a Swedish girl in Buenos Aires.

The Argentine officer was identified as Capt. Alfredo Astiz, army

commander on the remote island in the South Atlantic until his forces surrendered to the British on Sunday, and now reportedly in British custody.

Witnesses said he was involved in the fate of the girl, Dagmar Hegolin, 17, the Swedish Foreign Ministry said. The witnesses said they saw Argentine security forces shoot the girl outside the home of an anti-government activist in January, 1977. The Swedish government later said she was taken to a prison camp.

Crisis in the Falklands: Washington Caught Unawares

Reagan Says British Attack Came as Complete Surprise

By BERNARD WEINRAUB

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 1 — President Reagan said today that the British air attack on the Argentine-held Falkland Islands came as a complete surprise to the United States.

Mr. Reagan, speaking to reporters as he left the White House for a trip to the opening of the Knoxville, Tenn., World's Fair, said there were conflicting stories about what happened in the attack. "We hope there can be a peaceful solution," he added.

Asked if he thought full-scale hostilities would break out because of today's attack by British bombers and jet fighters, Mr. Reagan said: "No, I don't believe they have to necessarily follow."

As he boarded a helicopter, Mr. Reagan said, "All I know is we stand ready to help."

Mr. Reagan, in his chat with reporters, said the British attack came as a "complete surprise."

Later as he was about to enter the United States pavilion at the Knoxville fair, Mr. Reagan was asked by reporters how he could have been surprised by the British attack if the British planes had taken off from Ascension Island, where the United States has a base.

He replied, "No report of it to us, until we received the report that I mentioned this morning, but I'm keeping informed here and we have nothing yet that we can add to what I said."

When asked if the British were indeed using the United States airstrip on the island, Mr. Reagan said, "There is a joint-use base there."

Then, he was asked, how could the United States have been surprised by the British action? "I've never told the British when we took some plane off from there," the President said.

At the State Department, where officials were receiving a stream of reports from Argentina on the British air attack, Joseph Reap, a spokesman, said: "We are in a very dangerous phase of the dispute. The United States remains ready to assist the parties in finding a fairly early settlement."

'The British Do Not Advise Us'

Asked whether the United States had any advance word of the British attack, Mr. Reap replied: "No, none whatsoever. The British do not advise us of their plans."

On Friday, the Reagan Administration placed the United States firmly on the side of the British in the monthlong dispute and accused Argentina of "armed aggression" in the Falkland Islands. The Administration ordered limited economic and military sanctions against Argentina.

Today, Mr. Reagan said he was hopeful that a settlement could be worked out in the dispute. The President noted that the British Foreign Secretary, Francis Pym, was scheduled to arrive in the United States today, and that the Argentine Foreign Minister, Nicanor Costa Méndez, was already in the country.

Larry Speakes, the Deputy White House Press Secretary, later told reporters aboard Air Force One on route to Tennessee that Mr. Reagan's ranking National Security Council aides had been awakened early this morning with news of the British attack against the Falklands. Mr. Reagan was given a detailed report when he was awakened at the normal hour, Mr. Speakes said, but he declined to say what time that was.

Haig to Meet With Pym

Mr. Reagan was briefed in the morning by Robert McFarland, deputy national security assistant, Mr. Speakes said. The President was accompanied on his trip by Adm. John Poindexter, the senior military aide on the National Security Council staff.

Mr. Speakes said Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. planned to meet this evening or Sunday with Mr. Pym.

The press spokesman added that the United States had not been asked to send any military equipment to Britain, nor had it sent any.

Mr. Reagan indicated to reporters



New York Times

—NEW YORK, SUNDAY, MAY 2, 1982—

U.S. beyond 35-mile zone from New York City.
Higher in our delivery zone.

ONE DOLLAR

Weather: Mostly fair today with some high cloudiness and haze; clear, cool tonight. Mostly fair and warm tomorrow. Temperatures today 70-73, tonight 50-55; yesterday 57-75. Details on page 45.

BRITISH BOMBERS HIT AIRFIELDS IN FIRST ATTACK ON FALKLANDS; ARGENTINA SAYS IT DOWNS 2 JETS

PLAN TO RETALIATE

Argentines, Threatening Counterblow, Dismiss Impact of the Raids

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, May 1 — The Argentine military command said today that its forces in the Falkland Islands had repulsed two waves of British air attacks and shot down two planes.

Military spokesmen said a British pilot had been killed and another captured in raids on the airfield outside Stanley, the main settlement. It was the first attack against the 10,000 troops dug in on the Falklands since they were seized by Argentina a month ago.

Tamam, the Government press agency, said several Argentine soldiers had been injured, some seriously, and a fuel drum had been set ablaze.

Military officials said Argentina had responded by sending six planes over the British fleet off the Falklands.

Plans for Counterattack Hinted

The officials said the planes had not fired on the ships, but spokesmen hinted that Argentina might be gearing up for a counterattack.

Rodolfo Baldissera, Secretary of Information, said nations responded "to war with war."

An army spokesman denied that the runway had been badly cratered, as reported by Britain, saying that the bombs had missed the strip altogether.

"They lacked precision," he said. "They have had their practice. Now we are going to practice, too. The best defense is to attack."

The first British air raid came in the dark at 4:40 A.M., followed by another at 8:35. A communiqué issued here by the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the afternoon said the attacks were continuing by midday.

Contradicting British reports that all planes had returned safely, the Joint Chiefs of Staff said in a statement that two Harrier jump-jets had been shot down and that other British planes had been damaged "by their own fire."

The Argentine spokesman said a third

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The New York Times / May 1, 1982
London said Vulcan bombers from Ascension Island joined carrier-based Harriers in attacks on Stanley and Goose Green. Circle shows 300-mile zone that Britain and Argentina have declared off-limits to each other's forces.

British Goal in Attacks: To Force Tough Options

By DREW MIDDLETON

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 1 — The apparently successful British air strikes against the Stanley and Goose Green airfields complete the air and sea blockade of the Falkland Islands.

With the islands' only airfields out of action, Argentina's only possible means of reinforcement would be to run warships loaded with troops through a qualitatively superior British fleet.

The British forces, analysts emphasized, retain their other options: small landings by Royal Marine commandos at isolated points on the islands' long coastline or a major attack on the main garrison at Stanley.

Some NATO analysts believe that for the present the British will concentrate on the first of these, hoping that small landings will put the defenders off bal-

ance and create favorable opportunities for heavier attacks when the troopship Canberra arrives with marine and air-borne troop reinforcements.

The completion of the blockade leaves Argentina with another and more fateful option: a sortie by the surface fleet and the two submarines against the British fleet, forcing a battle that, if successful for Argentina, would break the blockade.

Neutral naval sources said the option is open. They added that they thought this was exactly what the British wanted, a battle in which they believe the qualitative superiority of their ships and crews would turn the Argentine sortie into a disaster.

New Type of Bomb

Complete assessments of the damage caused by the Royal Air Force's Vulcans and Harriers on the Stanley field, the more important of the two, will not be received until Sunday. R.A.F. sources, however, reported that the strip was severely cratered, probably by the new JP-33 airfield attack bombs that were developed for raids on Soviet-bloc airfields.

The ability of the Argentines to repair the airfields is minimal, Ministry of Defense sources said. They pointed out that the Argentines had been at Stanley for 28 days without trying to lengthen the 4,000-foot runway. They attributed

LONDON DENIES LOSS

2 Waves of Planes Strike From Ascension Base and From Carriers

By R. W. APPLE JR.

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 1 — British fighters and bombers attacked two airfields in the Argentine-occupied Falkland Islands early today, the Government announced.

The two-wave attack, the first British strike at the islands since Argentina seized them almost a month ago, damaged runways and parked aircraft, according to the Defense Ministry.

The strike constituted a stepping-up of the struggle for the South Atlantic archipelago and could increase the pressure on Argentina to reach a diplomatic settlement.

Reagan Vowes Surprise

In Washington, President Reagan said the attack had come as a "complete surprise" to the United States, but he expressed hope that there was still time to find "a peaceful solution" to the crisis. (Page 12.)

A Defense Ministry statement said delta-winged Vulcan bombers, which flew from Ascension Island in the South Atlantic, struck during the night, followed at dawn by Harrier jump-jets from the British fleet near the Falklands. A spokesman asserted that "both operations were successful" and that all British aircraft had returned safely to their bases, with no casualties to crew members.

Although detailed damage assessments were unavailable tonight, the spokesman said runways and parked aircraft had been hit both at Stanley, which has a 4,000-foot strip, and at the smaller installation near Goose Green, 50 miles west of Stanley on East Falkland. The runway at Stanley, he said, was "severely cratered."

Differing Account by Argentina

Argentina gave a radically different account of the engagement. In Buenos Aires, a spokesman for President Leopoldo Galtieri said two Harriers had been shot down and others damaged by antiaircraft fire. The Argentine Embassy in Washington said one British pilot had been killed and a second taken prisoner. An embassy statement insisted that the Stanley airstrip was open and undamaged. Argentina also said it had launched an aerial counterattack on the British fleet.

The British categorically denied the Argentine claims.

A strike on the Stanley airfield had been widely predicted, but its timing caused some surprise because of the departure tonight of Foreign Secretary Francis Pym for talks in Washington.

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At Caleta Olivia, in southern Argentina, a soldier rests on a field gun. Yesterday's British raids on the Falklands raised fears of attacks on the mainland.

Argentina Says It Downed 2 Jets in British Attacks on the Falklands

Continued From Page 1

Harrier had been hit but disappeared off radar screens, presumably downed also. The statement by the Joint Chiefs of Staff said they were "trying to determine" the names of the pilots of the two downed planes.

The British fleet that was dispatched almost four weeks ago surrounded the Falklands on Friday to enforce a blockade within a 200-mile radius.

Argentine military sources said the British aircraft carriers Hermes and Invincible, from which the Harriers had been launched, were stationed a hundred miles east of the islands.

Britain said long range Vulcan bombers based in Ascension Island, some 4,000 miles from the Falklands, had taken part in the nighttime raid, having been refueled in the air twice to cover the great distance.

The ruling Argentine junta, in a communique, condemned the attack as a "flagrant violation of Resolution 502 of the United Nations Security Council,

clearly demonstrating the character of aggressor assumed by Britain."

The resolution, adopted April 3, called for the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falklands, for an end of hostilities and for negotiations.

Argentina filed complaints both with the United Nations and the Organization of American States over the air attacks.

Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez was on his way back to Buenos Aires from talks with United Nations officials in New York when he learned of the attack during a stopover in Rio de Janeiro.

On arriving here, he said: "There are two answers to all aggression of this type: one military and the other diplomatic. We have already given our military answer and we are still trying the diplomatic."

He then met with President Leopoldo Galtieri, who has been saying little publicly in the last week and said nothing today.

The junta announced the nighttime air raid in a two-paragraph communi-

que that was issued at almost the same time that the second raid was taking place.

A later communique said the attacks "had absolutely no effect" on Argentine defenses. Protecting the airfield is crucial to maintaining Argentina's troops on the islands because it has been the only means of resupply.

Ship traffic was cut off three weeks ago by a British naval cordon enforced by submarines, and the Argentine Government has been running an airlift from the mainland. It was unclear whether there were any planes on the Stanley airfield at the time of the raids, as Britain declared.

U.N. Gets Argentine Complaint

UNITED NATIONS, May 1 (Reuters). — Argentina complained to the United Nations today about British raids on the Stanley airfield, but did not request a meeting of the Security Council.

In brief letters to the Council president, Ling Qing of China, and to Secre-

tary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar, the Argentine delegate, Eduardo Roca, said the attack had violated the Security Council resolution of April 3, calling for a halt to hostilities and Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands.

Communist Party Chief Slain in Sicily Drive Against Mafia

PALERMO, Sicily, May 1 (Reuters). — Pio La Torre, the head of the Communist Party in Sicily, was shot dead Friday amid a campaign against Mafia bosses involved in international heroin trade.

Mr. La Torre, 34 years old, and his driver were killed in a hail of bullets fired by an unknown number of attackers near the party's headquarters.

Their car, according to a police reconstruction, was trapped in a one-way street blocked by the killers' car. The driver returned the fire with a .38-caliber pistol before he was killed.

Attacks Force Argentina To Risk Air or Sea Clash

Continued From Page 1

this to a lack of proper equipment and, as one official said, "a sort of 'it can't happen here' military mentality."

NATO sources said they were stunned by the failure of the Argentines to prepare for what they called the most obvious British operation.

Inadequate Antiaircraft Systems

The Argentines were severely criticized by NATO sources for inadequate antiaircraft missile and gun deployments. This betrayed, he said, an overconfidence that could be costly if the fighting continued.

No NATO sources commented accepted the Argentine version of the air raid. This said that it was carried out exclusively by Harrier fighter bombers from the task force's two aircraft carriers and that two of the aircraft had been knocked down and a third had crashed.

Nor did they believe Argentine reports that Dagger fighters had buzzed the British fleet. The fleet's main units, the sources said, were well out of range of the Dagger, an Israeli modified version of the French Mirage III. Daggers have a combat radius of 745 miles.

Argentina's only effective means of regaining the military initiative appears to be a rapid buildup of its air power. The British Vulcans, flying from Ascension Island and refueled by R A F Victors in flight, and the carrier-based Harriers demonstrated what air power can do. But analysts emphasize that British air strength is small, though qualitatively high.

There are no more than 20 Harriers with the task force at present, though another 10 are en route on a requisitioned merchant ship. The number of Vulcans based on Ascension is put at 10. Given normal attrition rates in air war, such a force would not be adequate for continued bombardment and support of ground forces.

Underestimated Number of Jets

The point is all the more important in view of reports here that more Dagger fighters have been delivered to Argentina than was previously known. One estimate is that the air force now has 30 rather than 20 Daggers operational, with the possibility that there is a total of 40 of the aircraft in Argentina. They are based at Tandil near Buenos Aires.

Nad the Argentines been entertaining enough to lengthen the Stanley airstrip, the increase in the Dagger force would

be ominous for the British. As it is, the Daggers and the Mirage IIIs, the best fighters in the Argentine inventory, reach the British fleet a present deployment area, even after refueling, with a little fuel that they are limited to a few seconds over their targets.

The Argentine garrison did modify the airstrip, according to information reaching London. The work consisted of widening it rather than lengthening it to make it usable for Argentine warplanes. Now, according to British sources, the strip is packed with craters 20 feet deep and 30 feet across as a result of the Vulcans' high level bombing, which kept the big delta wing bombers out of range of missile and gun fire.

The elimination of the airstrip gives the British forces another advantage. When the remaining Harriers arrive, the British will be in position to land jump-jets wherever they wish in the countryside without serious opposition in the air.

Electronic Superiority

NATO sources emphasize another point that they consider almost forgotten. This is British superiority in electronic intelligence and electronic countermeasures.

The task force ships, the sources said, can "blind" any attacking aircraft or ships and their radars and, simultaneously, jam all command and control traffic between bases on the mainland and the attacking forces.

This is an obvious deterrent to the air battle scenario that analysts believe the Argentines could follow. This is an attack on the British fleet by A-4 Skyhawks escorted by Mirages and Daggers after refueling about 100 miles off the mainland.

If the fleet commander keeps his ships 100 miles or more east of East Falkland, the Argentine aircraft would not only be operating at extreme range but would have lost all communication with the forces on the island or their bases in Argentina.

8 Killed on Guatemala Bus

GUATEMALA, May 1 (AP). — A bus crashed into a retaining wall west of here Friday, killing 8 passengers and injuring 40, the police said. Rescuers working two hours to remove the injured and the bodies of the six men and two women who died.

GIVE TO THE FRESH AIR FUND

imes

MAY 3

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British Say Sub Torpedoed Cruiser

Commando Unit Believed to Be on East Falkland

Argentine Vessel Badly Damaged, London Declares

By KENNETH FREED,
Times Staff Writer

By WILLIAM TUOHY,
Times Staff Writer

BUENOS AIRES—Argentina on Sunday claimed to have won the first round in the battle with Britain for the Falkland Islands, but government sources acknowledged that at least one contingent of British commandos made a successful landing on the principal island, East Falkland.

The sources said an undetermined number of British troops were ferried by helicopter from the British task force about midnight Saturday and landed on a peninsula about 15 miles northwest of Stanley, the Falkland's main settlement.

Before Britain's announcement today that one of its submarines torpedoed an Argentine cruiser Sunday night, there had been no reports of new fighting in the Falklands conflict for more than 24 hours, and Britain denied in all important particulars every element cited by Argentina as the basis for its claim to have been the winner of Saturday's air and sea clashes in the Falklands.

Report From Peru

In another development, the Associated Press reported Sunday night from Lima, Peru, that President Fernando Belaunde Terry said Britain and Argentina would shortly announce a cessation of hostilities.

Belaunde's statement, made at press conference, said a seven-point agreement had been reached and that the first point called for "an immediate cessation of hostilities," AP reported.

In Washington, State Department spokesman Joseph Reap said "I have no information on that." A Foreign Ministry source in Buenos Aires said he was aware of no such initiative. And in London, a Foreign Office spokesman said, "We have no information," AP reported.

Argentina's military command said Sunday that its forces had shot down 13 British aircraft, disabled two vessels, the aircraft carrier

Please see COMMANDOS: Page 10

LONDON—The British Defense Ministry announced today that a British submarine torpedoed and severely damaged the Argentine cruiser General Belgrano in the South Atlantic Sunday afternoon.

The ministry announcement said that at 3 p.m. (11 a.m. PDT), the General Belgrano, bought from the United States and the only cruiser in Argentina's small navy, was hit by a number of torpedoes. It said that the British submarine was not damaged in the encounter.

It was the first report of a British submarine firing a torpedo at an Argentine warship in the fighting.

Details of the action were not disclosed immediately, but it was assumed in official circles here that the Argentine cruiser was caught by the British inside the "total exclusion zone" that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government had earlier declared for a radius of 200 miles around the Falklands.

Briefing for Opposition

"The cruiser posed a significant threat to the British task force," a Defense Ministry spokesman said.

Thatcher met for four hours with her "crisis cabinet" at her official country retreat at Chequers on Sunday, planning Britain's next move in the escalating conflict over the islands that Argentina seized April 2.

After Saturday's daylong series of military engagements around the Falklands between British and Argentine forces, Thatcher offered opposition party leaders a top-level secret briefing on British war plans.

David Steel, head of the Liberal Party, and David Owen, foreign policy expert for the Social Democratic Party, accepted her invitation. But Michael Foot, leader of the Labor Party, declined the offer, on the grounds that he wanted to be free to comment on the Falklands conflict in the House of Commons.

The opposition party leaders were granted the briefing in their

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Haig, Pym Study Ways to Pressure Argentina

Britain's Foreign Secretary Says He Has No Shopping List of Material and Supplies for Fleet

By OSWALD JOHNSTON, Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. and his British counterpart, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, met for four hours Sunday in their new role as partners in the Falkland Islands crisis to review how best to press Argentina to yield to a negotiated settlement acceptable to Britain.

With Haig standing beside him after a morning session at the State Department, Pym repeated Britain's thanks for the U.S. decision Friday to drop the evenhandedness of Haig's mediating role and to openly support Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government.

"I came here last week to negotiate with Mr. Haig as a mediator," Pym said. "I have come back this week to consult with him as an ally."

Reagan's Aid Offer

Pym stressed, however, that he did not come to Washington this week with a shopping list of war material and other logistical help for the British task force in the South Atlantic. President Reagan on Friday offered that kind of help as part of the U.S. decision to support Britain unequivocally.

Pym spoke with Haig for two hours at the State Department and for another two hours at midday at the British Embassy residence. He met with Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger at the embassy before flying to New York for talks with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Speaking to reporters at the embassy, Pym said the details of Britain's military supply needs will be worked out later on. "There will be a lot of contact at the senior official level at the military level, and as the needs become apparent, those specific requests will be made. Ob-

viously the United States want to give us support, short of direct military involvement—and we want it and need it."

Ways to Increase Pressure

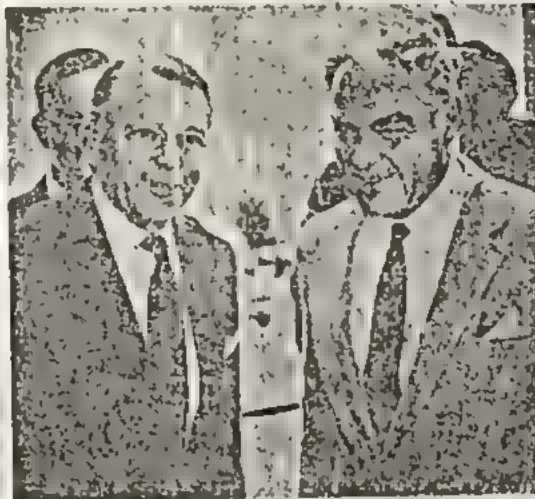
Pym gave few details of his talks with Haig, but it seemed clear from his public statements Sunday that they discussed ways in which the Reagan Administration could help Britain step up diplomatic, economic and military pressure on the military junta that rules Argentina.

"We just discussed and considered the general areas of possible support," Pym said, again reverting to his theme that only through a concentration of pressure will the Argentinean compromise—through a "backstop of pressure, which I hope will have the effect of causing the junta and those in the Argentine to change their minds, and come to their senses, and take the army away and get back to the negotiating table in a civilized way."

Noting that some limited economic sanctions on Argentina were announced last Friday, Pym suggested that new U.S. economic steps are under consideration. "It may very well be that the United States will take further economic actions," he said. "Mr. Haig has said he would consider that. Naturally, I want to see the maximum amount of pressure applied."

Although Haig last week clearly blamed Argentina's rejection of a last ditch U.S. plan as the final cause of the American change of role in the Falklands crisis, Pym on Sunday conceded that Thatcher's government was itself deeply skeptical of the plan.

Pym said several times that "the door remains open" to renewed negotiation. But he made clear the British view—quietly shared in



British Foreign Minister Francis Pym and Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. prior to their four-hour meeting in Washington.

Washington—that more pressure will be needed before Argentina makes any more concessions.

"It remains to be seen whether it is possible to find a mediator," he said, adding that he will discuss that issue with Secretary General Perez de Cuellar. But Pym was openly doubtful that the United Nations can do anything useful at this point, in view of the fact that Argentina has not yet removed its forces from the islands, in violation of Security Council resolution April 3 calling for their withdrawal.

Pym returned again and again to this point. "They've got to go," he said. "They began the aggressive action. They invaded the islands."

"They have no right to be there, and they'll have to go from there. We want them to go back as a result of a peaceful settlement, if we can. But if not, then I'm afraid they'll go back by force."

Asked whether the government of Argentine President Leopoldo F. Galtieri may not have to be ousted before a compromise can be

reached, Pym rhetorically waved the point aside. "I haven't the slightest idea, and I'm not sure that I mind very much," he said. "If they decide to change their leaders, well, that's a matter for them." The British demands and the U.N. resolution are perfectly clear, Pym said, "and if that requires them to change, the government once or twice, so be it."

Meanwhile in an interview on the NBC television program "Meet the Press," Charles H. Percy, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, predicted that the fighting over the Falklands will be relatively brief, will not extend to the mainland and will be won by the British.

In another development, President Reagan, who returned to the White House from a weekend visit to Tennessee, told reporters that the United States is "still trying" to end the dispute but that the South Atlantic crisis could become "pretty ugly" if the Soviets move to aid Argentina. "I just hope they won't," he added.

COMMANDOS: British Unit Reported on Isle

Continued from Front Page

Hermes and a frigate, and damaged several others ships of the British task force sent to recover the British islands colony, which Argentina seized April 2.

From London, however, Times correspondent William Tushy reported that the British Defense Ministry said Britain lost no aircraft, that only one of its ships, a frigate, suffered minor damage, and that damage inflicted on one British Sea Warrior jump jet fighter plane was quickly repaired and the plane returned to action.

A British correspondent aboard the Hermes, flagship of the British task force in the Falkland area, radioed to London, "I'm aboard Hermes. It is not on fire. We also clearly not listing. Little damage to other ships in the task force has been minimal."

Brian Hanrahan of the British Broadcasting Corp. reported that Argentine warplanes "dive bombed" the ships but missed them. The ships were then strafed, and two of them suffered what was described as superficial injuries. Hanrahan added that "the Hermes has not even been attacked."

The British government said that the Stanley airfield, the island's only paved landing strip, was severely damaged by Britain's raids that it was effectively put out of service, Tushy reported.

Argentina's communications admitted the loss of three aircraft, two of them supersonic jet fighters and the third a propeller fighter craft destroyed on the ground, but insisted that the Stanley airfield suffered only minor damage.

These communications also boasted that Saturday's attacks by Argentine planes forced the British task force to retreat from the waters near the Falklands.

The landing of British troops at midnight Saturday occurred on the St. Louis Peninsula on East Falkland Island, northwest of Stanley

Government sources have said Argentine searchers lost track of the intruders but added that their number was small and that they were not considered a serious threat to Argentina's defenses on the islands.

While the media in Argentina was proclaiming victories over the British and while the government called Saturday's action "a triumph," officials warned that "severe fighting" remains. Saturday marked "only the beginning of the hostilities," one commentator said.

President Leopoldo F. Galtieri was quoted by press sources as telling his Cabinet that "Argentina will never fly the white flag" of surrender.

5 Merchants Guilty of \$5.5-Million Arson in Rival Markets

NEW YORK (AP)—Five supermarket owners have been convicted on charges of setting fire to competing stores in northern Brooklyn, the district attorney's office announced Sunday.

A jury deliberated less than two days before returning the guilty verdict late Saturday, according to the office of Dist. Atty. Elisabeth Holtzman. The five men were found guilty of conspiracy, criminal restraint of trade, arson and attempted arson. More than \$5.5 million in damage was caused.

State Supreme Court Justice Charles Lawrence set May 25 for sentencing for Raymond Borens, 26, of Queens, and Freddy Salceda, 33, Nelson Santana, 32, Alvin Torres, 23, and Felix Torres, 32, all of Brooklyn. They could face terms of 10 to 20 years.

The charges stemmed from a series of fires set at neighborhood grocery stores from April until August, 1980.

SHIP: Argentine Cruiser Torpedoed, British Say

Continued from First Page

roles as privy counselors to Queen Elizabeth. Under British law, it is a criminal offense to disclose the contents of such briefings.

Meanwhile, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym continued his search for a diplomatic solution to the conflict, meeting in Washington on Sunday with Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. and in New York later in the day with U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar.

Sources at 10 Downing St. did not, however, express high hopes for a settlement at this stage.

"Haig is in a difficult position, because the United States is now on the side of Britain," one source said.

In addition, Britain is not really seeking anything from the United Nations, having already received what it wanted when the Security Council, acting the day after Argentina invaded the Falklands, adopted a resolution ordering Argentina to withdraw its forces.

The British doubt that they could get any new, stronger action from the United Nations, and they foresee the possibility of a Soviet veto of any new resolution offered in the Security Council. In its public pronouncements on the Falklands con-

flikt, the Soviet Union has tended to side with Argentina.

Sources close to the prime minister said Britain intends to keep the pressure on Argentina, and one of them described Saturday's air and naval bombardment of the airfield at Stanley, the Falklands capital, and other targets in East Falkland as "the latest notch in the ratchet."

British officials believe that the Buenos Aires regime is not yet convinced that Britain is deadly serious about recapturing the Falklands, by force if necessary.

"We are still not ruling out negotiations," one senior government official said Sunday night. "We have not changed our policy. We are perfectly willing to negotiate with Argentina, but only after their troops are off the Falklands. And we would prefer to negotiate them off the islands, rather than shooting them off the islands."

One military expert said that the continuing British naval blockade and the damage inflicted to the Stanley airfield by Saturday's raids have "well and truly" isolated Argentina's Falklands garrison from its mainland sources of supply.

The problem now, he said, may be to convince the Argentine troops that they should surrender.

Their morale may be high at present, he continued, but as days go by without new supplies, spirits will sag and they may begin to think in terms of surrender.

That, he noted, was what happened in the case of Argentina's troops on South Georgia Island, all of whom surrendered within 24 hours of the British assault there. South Georgia, an administrative dependency of the Falklands 800 miles southeast of the Falklands archipelago, was seized April 3 by Argentine forces and recaptured by the British in an assault that began April 25.

Meanwhile, a new poll indicated that Thatcher's popularity has risen considerably since the Falklands crisis began.

Standings of Parties

The poll, taken by the Sunday Times of London, gave the percentage standings of the political parties today as follows: Conservative, 43%; Labor, 30%, and Liberal-Social Democratic, 25%.

Thatcher's personal popularity exceeded that of her Conservative Party, the survey showed. The poll also showed that three Britons in five would not be prepared to lose a serviceman's life to regain the

Falklands. About the same number would be opposed to endangering the Falkland Islanders' lives with military action, the poll showed.

And if fighting intensifies, the poll analysts said, the results could be seen as a warning to the government that public support for its policy could be in danger—if it leads to heavy loss of life in retaking the Falklands.

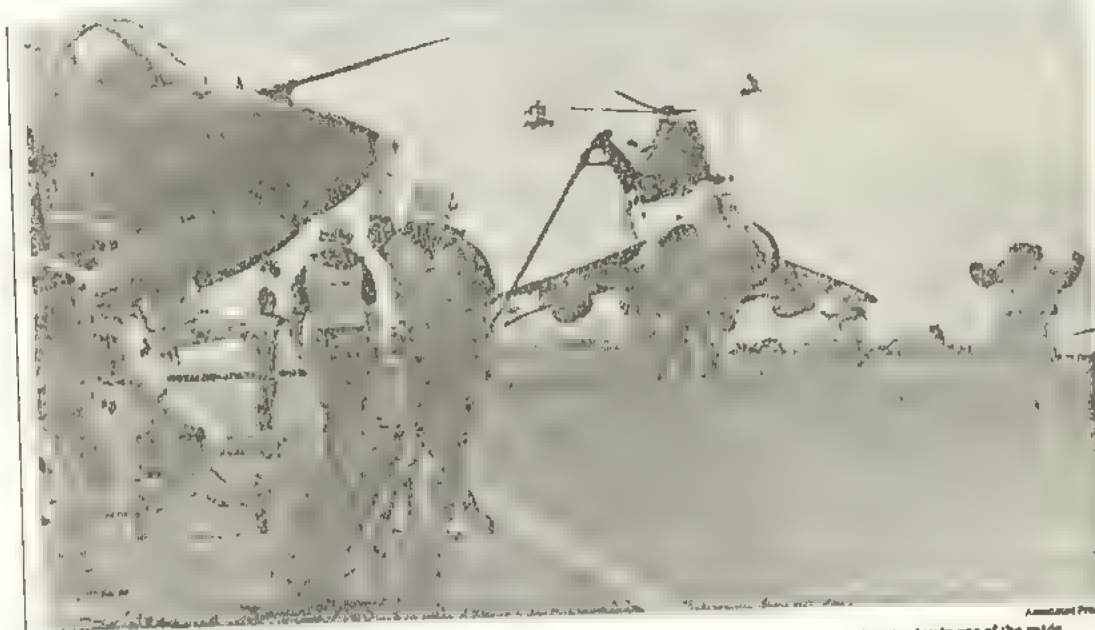
British Ships Refuel on Way to Falklands

From Reuters

FREETOWN, Sierra Leone—Two British container ships, at least one loaded with aircraft, arrived here to refuel Sunday before heading for the Falkland Islands to join the British task force there.

Camouflaged helicopters and airplanes were visible on the deck of the 18,000-ton Atlantic Conveyor, a Cunard container ship pressed into service by the British government.

Port sources said a second container vessel, the European Ferries ship Europic, was also in port, to take on fuel and water. No details of its cargo were available.



Sea Harrier jump-jets landing on the carrier Hermes during a recent exercise. The planes were said to have been used yesterday in one of the raids.

British Bomb Airfields in First Attack on Falklands

Continued From Page 1

with Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. and at the United Nations with Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuellar.

Still, Mr. Pym had remarked in a broadcast to the Falkland Islanders on Friday night, "War or some kind of escalation of military action, however unpleasant it may be, is, I'm afraid, quite probable."

The Stanley airfield is only about two miles outside of town, but well before the attack, sources here said, all but 100 to 200 of the town's 1,000 residents had left the capital for the countryside.

Japan Sides With Britain

Ranking Government officials described the raid as another intensification of pressure on the military junta in Buenos Aires to pull out of the islands which were seized by Argentine troops on April 2. On Friday the United States announced economic and military sanctions against Argentina, and Japan took a similar step today.

"We will cease hostilities when the Argentines withdraw," said a close aide to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Mrs. Thatcher approved the raid at a meeting with senior colleagues this week.

The Ministry of Defense noted that when Britain announced a total sea and air blockade of the Falklands on Wednesday, it warned that any ship or plane challenging the restricted zone would risk attack, that the Stanley air-

strip would be "closed" and that any plane remaining on the ground there would be liable to destruction.

"Early this morning," a statement said, "British aircraft took action to enforce the total exclusion and to deny the Argentines the use of the airstrip." But there was no word from the Defense Ministry whether the attack was a preventive strike or whether an Argentine warplane had attempted to breach the blockade.

Argentine Reports Six Wounded

Nor was there any information on enemy casualties. Sources in Buenos Aires said six Argentine soldiers had been wounded.

Britain's arm. military analysts said, was to make the fields unusable either by the C-130 transports that have been ferrying men and material to the Falklands since the imposition of the British sea blockade on April 13 or by Argentine fighter planes.

Recent television pictures of the Stanley strip have shown C-130's parked alongside the runway together with propeller-driven Pucara fighters, which were developed for antiguerrilla warfare. Although the Pucaras are slow they are well suited to Stanley's primitive facilities and could be highly effective against any British landing.

It was thought probable that the British strike force had used a combination of conventional bombs, rockets and new JP 233 bombs. The JP-233's are designed to dig deep craters in concrete

runways, and they include antipersonnel mines to hamper repair efforts.

Analysts said the British fleet lying off the Falklands had almost certainly used its advanced electronic equipment to jam Argentine radar and radio communications before the attack was launched. They contended that the Argentine forces on the island were unlikely to have mounted an effective anti-aircraft defense in these circumstances, although there have been reports that they were equipped with British-designed Tigercat anti-aircraft missile systems.

The Vulcan bombers, which had been scheduled to go out of service within weeks, were hurriedly converted last month to carry conventional, rather than nuclear weapons. Their pilots practiced low-level bomb runs in the Western Isles of Scotland for a few days, before the planes and crews were sent to Ascension Island.

Flew From Two Carriers

Britain owns Ascension, but the air base there is leased to the United States with the proviso that Britain can use it in an emergency such as this one.

Flying from the base on Ascension about 4,000 miles northeast of the Falklands, the subsonic bombers, which carry a crew of three, were refueled in mid-air at least twice by Victor tanker aircraft, also operating from Ascension. The United States used similar long-distance bombing tactics in the Vietnam War, employing B-52 bombers based at Anderson Air Force Base at

Guam to strike at targets in Southeast Asia.

The Harriers, which can take off and land vertically and can hover like helicopters, operated from the aircraft carriers Hermes and Invincible in the British task force somewhere near the Falklands. They are single-man aircraft.

Prime Minister Thatcher was given confirmation of the raids at about 9 P.M. today at her official country residence, Chequers, northwest of London. She later talked with other members of her crisis cabinet.

Denis Healey, the foreign policy spokesman for the opposition Labor Party, said Labor would support the attack providing there had been no casualties. At a May Day rally in Carlisle in northwest England, he said it was "reasonable" to try to disable the airfield.

But Tony Benn, the persistent left-wing critic of the Prime Minister's strategy, said that Mrs. Thatcher had lost control of "the war machine she set in progress" and that admirals and generals were now in charge.

Spain Criticizes Britain

MADRID, May 1 (Reuters) — Spain condemned the British attack on the Falkland Islands airfield today, calling it a serious increase in the conflict. A Foreign Ministry statement said any "more generalized and massive British action" on the islands would be a historic mistake.

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

Weather Mostly sunny and warm today with light southwesterly winds, clear tonight. Partly cloudy, warm tomorrow. Temperatures today 77-79, tonight 50-53, yesterday 52-75. Details on page 13.

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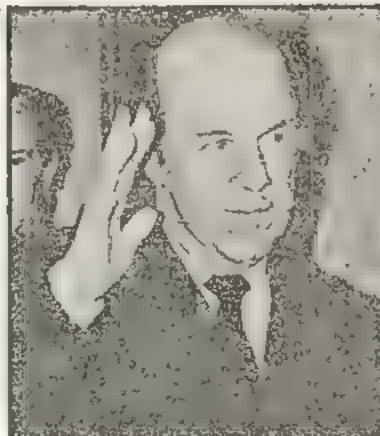
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30 CENTS

U.S. SIDES WITH BRITAIN IN FALKLAND CRISIS, ORDERING SANCTIONS AGAINST ARGENTINES



The New York Times/Torsten Zelnke; Associated Press, United Press International

Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. before yesterday's announcement in Washington of U.S. support for Britain. Nicanor Costa Mendez, above left, the Argentine Foreign Minister, arriving at the United Nations. Foreign Secretary Francis Pym of Britain, left, during a news conference in London.

'AGGRESSION' CITED

President Offers London
'Matériel Support' and
Bars Aid to Junta

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 30—President Reagan accused Argentina today of "armed aggression" in the Falkland Islands and ordered limited sanctions against Argentina, placing the United States openly on the side of Britain in the monthlong crisis.

Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. warned that the Falklands dispute was entering "a new and dangerous phase, in which large-scale military ac-

Transcript of Haig remarks, page 8.

tion is likely," and Mr. Reagan offered to provide British military forces in the South Atlantic with "matériel support." But he ruled out any direct United States military involvement.

Secretary Haig said the sanctions against Argentina included a suspension of all military exports and certain forms of new financial assistance.

Besides the commitment to assist the British with military supplies, Washington's action today was expected to strengthen Britain's political efforts to exert pressure on Argentina for a diplomatic settlement.

In London, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym welcomed the announcement of United States support and said he would visit Washington and New York this weekend to continue the search for a peaceful solution. [Page 6.]

Still Hoping for Settlement

~~The Argentine Foreign Minister~~
Nicanor Costa Méndez, said at the United Nations that his Government was "always ready to comply" with a Security Council resolution calling for a diplomatic settlement and the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falklands, but he stressed that the question of Argentine sovereignty over the islands was "nonnegotiable." And an Argentine spokesman said later that the Foreign Minister's statement was not intended to suggest that Argentina's policy on the Falklands had changed in any way. He said that compliance with the United Nations resolution was conditional on an end by Britain to "all aggressive acts and measures, including sanctions." [Page 7.]

President Reagan, speaking to a luncheon group of Midwest editors and broadcasters at the White House, said, "We're still hopeful that before action takes place that there still may be a diplomatic settlement." But he said the United States at this point had "gone as far as we can go" in trying to mediate the dispute.

Laying the blame entirely on the

Continued on Page 8, Column 1

Crisis in the Falklands: Washington Declares Its Position

U.S. Sides With the British In Falkland Islands Dispute

Continued From Page 1

British Prime Minister, Mr. Reagan said.

"We must remember that the aggression was on the part of Argentina in this dispute over the sovereignty of that little ice-cold bunch of land down there, and they finally just resorted to armed aggression. I think the principle that all of us must abide by is, armed aggression of that kind must not be allowed to succeed."

Foreign Ministers Active

American officials said that despite the expectation of an outbreak of fighting as the Argentine and British forces squared each other, it was too early now to predict what would happen. They noted that Foreign Pym was coming to Washington and that Foreign Minister Costa Méndez was speaking of Argentina's desire for a negotiated settlement.

This left open the possibility that a last-minute diplomatic solution might still occur, but Mr. Haig seemed to think some fighting was more likely to break out first.

The first announcement that the United States had decided to drop an evenhanded approach to the dispute came after a National Security Council meeting today. The meeting was called to discuss the ~~breakdown~~ breakdown in Mr. Haig's diplomatic efforts after Argentina refused to accept his compromise plan.

Mr. Haig read a statement saying the United States believed that Britain would have been sympathetic to the proposals offered by the United States to both sides on Tuesday. But, he said, "Argentina informed us yesterday that it could not accept it."

Britain 'Has Been Reasonable'

Later, reporters were told that "an objective assessment" of the negotiations carried on by Mr. Haig was that "the United Kingdom has been reasonable and forthcoming throughout the discussion but Argentina has been less so."

A senior State Department official said the written Argentine response to the Haig plan was "a very, very clear breakdown of the proposal." He added that though the Argentines had previously said they would accept United Nations Resolution 2062, they had couched it with an insistence on a guarantee of Argentine sovereignty over the Falklands. Mr. Costa Méndez repeated that position today.

Mr. Haig said that until now the United States had refrained from taking measures "that could have interfered with our ability to work with both sides in the search for peace."

"Now, however, in light of Argentina's failure to accept a compromise, we must take concrete steps to underscore that the United States cannot and will

not condone the use of unlawful force to resolve disputes," he said.

The Secretary said Mr. Reagan had ordered the following steps:

¶The suspension of all military exports to Argentina. Argentina has been barred from receiving such equipment since 1978, so the order affects only about 30 million in military equipment that was previously ordered.

¶The withholding of certification of Argentine eligibility for military sales. This refers to a plan to lift the ban imposed in 1974 for human rights reasons. At the time of the outbreak of the Falklands crisis, the Administration was studying whether to certify to Congress that Argentina's human rights situation justified resuming military sales.

¶The suspension of new Export-Import Bank credits and guarantees. The move does not affect an existing \$1 billion in Export-Import loans and guarantees.

¶The suspension of Commodity Credit Corporation guarantees. The United States has a minor \$2 million program with Argentina, dealing with American sales of softwood lumber.

Milder Than Common Market's

The Administration's actions fell far short of the trade embargo instituted by the 10-nation European Common Market on all Argentine exports.

When asked about the milder nature of the American measures, the senior State Department official said the United States reserved the right subsequently to take more serious steps.

"Our signals are essentially political, because in practical terms, the full penalty of American economic, or trade or financial severance will not be instrumental in changing the situation," he said. "What is important is the political signal that has been sent which laid responsibility on the Government of Argentina for failure in this phase, and confirmation that the United States will now change what has been a more balanced posture with respect to the crisis."

"We have now clearly been placed in a position where it is necessary for the international community to recognize why the crisis persists," the official said.

U.S. Plan Is Outlined

The basic outlines of the American proposal have been generally known, but Mr. Haig officially made it public for the first time today.

It included, he said, "a cessation of hostilities, withdrawal of both Argentine and British forces, termination of sanctions, establishment of a United States-United Kingdom-Argentine trilateral authority to maintain the agreement, continuation of the traditional local administration, with Argentine participation procedures for encouraging cooperation in the development of the islands, and a framework for negotiations on a final settlement, taking into



U.S. Navy Photograph

The Severn, a U.S. Navy oiler. Washington has offered to help London and that includes use of fuel stored at U.S. base on Ascension Island.

account the interests of both sides and the wishes of the inhabitants."

Mr. Haig said the plan "represented our best estimate of what the two parties could reasonably be expected to accept and was based squarely on our own principles and concerns for the rule of law." The United States regarded it "as a fair and sound proposal," he said.

"We had reason to hope that the United Kingdom would consider a settlement along the lines of our proposal, but Argentina informed us yesterday that it could not accept it," the Secretary said.

"Argentina's position remains that it must receive an assurance now of eventual sovereignty, or an immediate de facto role in governing the islands which would lead to sovereignty," he said. "For its part, the British Government has continued to affirm the need to respect the views of the inhabitants in any settlement."

No British Requests Yet

Mr. Haig said President Reagan had ordered a positive response to British requests for "material support" for the British forces, but Mr. Reagan said he had not yet received any request.

The decision by the Administration to side with Britain followed signs that sentiment was growing in Congress for an end to the impartial approach followed since Mr. Haig began his diplomatic mission soon Argentine forces invaded the islands April 2. The Senate

passed a resolution on Thursday night supporting the British, and the House Foreign Affairs Committee did the same.

Officials said they had expected fighting to break out as early as today, but there were indications that both Argentina and Britain were acting cautiously.

Mr. Reagan noted that discussions on avoiding war were continuing at the United Nations and said, "I believe that, down inside, neither side really wants the violence."

'Likelihood of Clash Is High'

In the briefing for reporters, the senior official said in response to a question that the forces are beginning to approach one another in a very dangerous way.

"Proximity of forces is such that if one or the other violate the sanctified areas that both have applied, the likelihood of a clash is high," he said.

But the official said that "clearly this is not the end" of the effort to reach a solution.

"Ultimately, a negotiated settlement must, and I am confident it will, be found," he said. "It means this phase is over, and a new phase will begin, and it may be that some military action will be the next benchmark for more intense reconsideration in both capitals of the situation."



British Warships Begin Blockade; Isles Are Cut Off

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER
Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, April 30 — Britain's air and sea blockade of the Falklands began today with ships of the British battle fleet reported in place around the islands in direct challenge to Argentina.

The fleet movements were reported by Western military sources here and in London. But the informants said that Argentina and Britain appeared to be waiting for each other to fire first to avoid being accused of starting a war.

Military sources here said British destroyers took positions between the Falklands and Argentina on Thursday, hours before the scheduled beginning of the blockade.

No Word on Argentine Fleet

There was no immediate word on how close the British warships were to the islands, but there were reports earlier this week that part of the fleet had moved to within 100 miles northeast of the Falklands.

There were no firm reports here about the whereabouts of the Argentine fleet. Some North Atlantic Treaty Organization sources in London said the Argentine ships were at sea but far from the 200-mile blockade zone.

Meanwhile, the Argentine junta was deliberating what response to make to the Reagan Administration's announcement of support for Britain in the crisis. Senior Western diplomats expressed doubt that the added pressure would force the junta to offer major concessions.

Continued on Page 8, Column 2

U.S. BANKERS FEAR SLOW REPAYMENTS

Argentine Sanction May Upset Loans—Gold Price Volatile

By ROBERT A. BENNETT

American bankers, who have lent Argentina about \$9.1 billion, said yesterday that their relationship with Buenos Aires had become far more precarious as a result of the American decision to impose economic sanctions on that country.

Though many described the sanctions as mild, they did not disguise their concerns about getting repaid on time.

Worries About Moratorium

The bankers' concern was reflected in the gold market yesterday, where prices seasawed in reaction to every Falklands rumor. After swinging by more than \$30 an ounce, gold ended the day on the Commodities Exchange in New York at \$346.50 an ounce, down \$14 from Thursday [Page 3].

The bankers said that if the Falklands dispute worsened, Argentina could retaliate against the United States, as well as against Britain's other supporters, by declaring a moratorium on its repayments of foreign debts. Argentina's total foreign debt to banks in the industrial countries is estimated at \$10 billion.

Continued on Page 8, Column 1

U.S. Says British Flotilla Has Supplies for 90 Days

By RICHARD HALLORAN
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 30 — British officials have told the United States that the fleet near the Falkland Islands could sustain operations for 90 days, and the Pentagon has therefore not made contingency plans for resupplying it, Administration officials said today.

Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. said in his statement on the crisis this morning that "the President has directed that the United States will respond positively to requests for materiel support for British forces."

"There will, of course, be no direct United States military involvement," he added.

A senior official told reporters this afternoon that British requests for help so far have been moderate. Other officials said that included requests for fuel stored at an American base on Ascension Island, which is governed by Britain.

The senior official also said that historical connections between the United States and Britain would continue, which indicated that the United States would continue to share intelligence with the British fleet and would possibly expand operations.

The United States has two intelligence-gathering satellites over the South Atlantic now, compared with six or eight for the Soviet Union. But the American satellites were said to be of

limited value because they are photographic surveillance devices hampered by the long nights and cloudy weather in the Southern Hemisphere.

The United States, Pentagon officials said earlier, has also made communication channels, including those using satellites, available to the British for contact over the 8,000 miles between London and the South Atlantic. Those communications links were said to be especially useful in making contact with nuclear-powered submarines that stay submerged for weeks at a time.

The Administration officials said that the 90 days during which the British fleet could sustain operations around

Continued on Page 7, Column 1

DAVID SCHENKER IS 50 YEARS OLD TODAY. There Mom, I did a sign. P.C.S.—ADVT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY J.D. 25/4/81—ADVT

HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO THE FATHER AND MURDERER who was a much. Syd, Robin, John, Michael—ADVT

TO LISA, THE WORLD'S MOST MAGNIFICENT woman and wife. Happy Birthday! I love you. —ADVT

U.S. Bankers Fear Slow Repayment

Continued From Page 1

stated at \$33 billion, with \$12.3 billion falling due this year.

Even before the latest American actions, the British conflict with Argentina had caused severe disruption in the international banking markets.

Most Latin American countries, because of their vocal support for Argentina, are finding it increasingly difficult, if not impossible, to get new long-term loans in the international markets, the bankers said. They added that they feared those countries might be drawn into the conflict, which would reduce their ability to get credit.

In addition, the British-Argentine conflict has caused serious friction between British banks and foreign banks that are members of syndicates that have made loans to Argentina. Generally, a country in debt makes repayments on such credits to an agent bank, which distributes the payments to each member of the syndicate.

But Britain has declared a freeze on Argentine assets, and partly for that reason, Argentina does not want to make direct payments to banks in Britain. Thus, it has been ignoring British agent banks and other agent banks in London. Instead, Argentina has been sending payments directly to the non-British members of the syndicates.

To avoid having the British banks declare Argentina in default on its loans, Argentina has said that it has been putting its funds into a special account outside Britain. According to some reports, this account is at the New York branch of Argentina's central bank, Banco de la Nacion; according to others, at a bank in Argentina.

Several bankers said yesterday that they doubted if any such account had been established. One American banker recommended that, to solve the problem, Argentina should set up such an account in a non-Argentine bank.

But the Lloyds Bank of London has not accepted the concept of a holding, or escrow, account, and has invoked a clause in a syndicated loan agreement with Agua y Energia, a public utility in Buenos Aires, which states that any payments on the loan must be shared among all members of the group. This clause is common in syndicated loan agreements.

American bankers said the non-British banks initially reacted "passively" to the request, hoping that the threat of military action would quickly be eliminated and that the problem would disappear. But Lloyds was reported to have lost its patience and to have served an ultimatum on its co-lenders to deliver the money.

The British-Argentine conflict is also having a detrimental effect on London

as a world financial center, the bankers said, because many agent banks have been quietly shifting their agent accounts to other world financial centers, mainly New York.

Some bankers said they have moved some agency accounts and not others, depending on the details of the loan. All such accounts would have been moved, they said, but the banks have been afraid of offending Britain, where all major banks have substantial operations. "We have tried to find an equitable solution, but it's hard," one New York banker said.

In addition, problems are growing for syndicated loans to other countries, such as Mexico, in which Argentine lenders participate and for which the agent is based in London. The agent accounts for some of these loans have been moved to other financial centers.

The biggest concern at the moment for United States banks, however, is whether they will be repaid. Against the \$9.2 billion that American banks have lent Argentina, it is estimated that they had only about \$3.35 billion in Argentine deposits, of which \$550 million is held in the United States and \$2.8 billion in foreign branches.

Because of the precariousness of their situation, no banker was willing to speak for attribution, and most sought to describe the American economic sanctions as very mild. They also said that they hoped that the conflict would be settled peacefully within a few days.

All the bankers said that, despite the apparently deepening conflict, they were continuing to conduct business as usual with Argentina and that they were renewing credits falling due. However, one bank said it had quickly accepted any offers when Argentine borrowers volunteered to repay.

Despite their fears, the American bankers said that they considered it highly unlikely that Argentina would declare a moratorium on debt repayments abroad because the country depended heavily on foreign credit to finance its imports, which amounted to \$1.7 billion in the first three months of this year.

But the bankers noted that Argentina had vast natural resources and that, by tightening its belt, it could live relatively well for a fairly long period without importing foreign goods, except for arms and ammunition to conduct a possible war with Britain.

Argentina is self-sufficient in food and practically self-sufficient in oil, importing only about 6 percent of its requirements. Lack of foreign credit would mainly affect its ability to import capital equipment and such other items as automobiles, the bankers said.

Having recently harvested its wheat crop, most of which has been sold to the Soviet Union, Argentina is expected to earn \$700 million to \$800 million in foreign exchange each month for the next few months, the bankers added.

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Transcript of Remarks By Haig on Falklands

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 30 — Following is a transcript of remarks by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. at the State Department this morning, as recorded by The New York Times:

The South Atlantic crisis is about to enter a new and dangerous phase in which large-scale military action is likely. I would like to bring you up to date on what we have done and why and what we must do now.

We have made a determined effort to restore peace through implementation of U.N. Security Council Resolution 502. That resolution calls for an end to hostilities, the withdrawal of Argentine forces from the islands and a diplomatic settlement of the fundamental dispute.

The United States made this extraordinary effort because the stakes in human lives and international order require it. From the outset, the United States has been guided by the basic principles of the rule of law and the peaceful settlement of disputes.

The collapse of that principle could only bring chaos and suffering. We also made this effort because the crisis raised the vital issues of hemispheric solidarity at a time when the Communist adversaries seek positions of influence on the mainland of the Americas and latent territorial disputes in much of the hemisphere called for unity and the resolute defense of principle.

Confidence of the Parties

We acted as well because the United States has the confidence of the parties. The United Kingdom is our closest ally, and Prime Minister Thatcher's Government looked to us to pursue a peaceful solution. We have also recently developed a better relationship with Argentina as part of our success in revitalizing the community of American states. President Gallerti also requested our involvement.

Under the direction of President Reagan, I participated in many days of intensive discussion with the parties in search of a framework for implementing U.N. Security Council Resolution 502. Our initial aim was to clarify the position of the parties and to offer suggestions on how those positions might be reconciled. We took no position on the merits of either the British or Argentine claims to the islands.

As the prospects for more intense hostilities arose, we put forth an American proposal. It represented our best estimate of what the two parties could reasonably be expected to accept and was based squarely on our own principles and concern for the rule of law. We regard this as a fair and a sound proposal.

The U.S. Proposal

It involves a cessation of hostilities; withdrawal of both Argentine and British forces; termination of sanc-

tions; establishment of a United States, United Kingdom, Argentine interim authority to maintain the agreement, continuation of the traditional local administration with Argentine participation, procedures for encouraging cooperation in the development of the islands, and a framework for negotiations on final settlement taking into account the interests of both sides and the wishes of the inhabitants.

We had reason to hope that the United Kingdom would consider a settlement along the lines of our proposal but Argentina informed us yesterday that it could not accept it. Argentina's position remains that it must receive an assurance now of eventual sovereignty or an immediate de facto role in governing the islands which would lead to sovereignty. For its part, the British Government has continued to affirm the need to respect the views of the inhabitants in any settlement.

The United States has thus far refrained from adopting measures in response to the seizure of the islands that could have interfered with our ability to work with both sides in the search for peace. The British Government has shown complete understanding for this position.

U.S. Steps Against Argentina

Now, however, in light of Argentina's failure to accept a compromise, we must take concrete steps to underscore the United States cannot and will not condone the use of unlawful force to resolve disputes. The President has therefore ordered the suspension of all military exports to Argentina, the withholding of certification of Argentine eligibility for military sales, the suspension of new Export-Import Bank credits and guarantees and the suspension of Commodity Credit Corporation guarantees.

The President has also directed that the United States will respond positively to requests for material support for British forces. There will, of course, be no direct U.S. military involvement.

American policy will continue to be guided by our concerns for the rule of law and our desire to facilitate an early and fair settlement. The United States remains ready to assist the parties in finding that settlement.

A strictly military outcome cannot endure over time. In the end, there will have to be a negotiated outcome acceptable to the interested parties—otherwise, we will all face unending hostility and insecurity in the South Atlantic.



British Royal Navy Sea Harrier aircraft are shown recently on flight deck of HMS Invincible. The Harriers were used by British in their attack yesterday.

AP PHOTO

Junta makes Thatcher course easier

Argentine rejection of Haig peace proposals gives British leader room to maneuver.

By Andrew Neil
Special to The Globe

LONDON — When the British Cabinet gathered for yet another crisis meeting last Wednesday, its greatest fear was that Argentina would make encouraging noises about the latest US peace proposals and call Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig back to Buenos Aires for more talks. That would have presented Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher with a problem.

The Royal Navy task force was at least in position around the Falkland Islands, ready to enforce a total sea and air blockade from 7 a.m. Friday. British forces were poised to begin military operations against the occupying Argentine troops. But as long as there was a chance the Argentine junta might agree to the Haig peace process, Thatcher felt her hands were tied.

The fact that the peace proposals came with the US seal of approval ruled out large-scale British military action until Argentina had replied. Any military moves by the British would have jeopardized US support for Britain, something Thatcher is anxious to avoid at all costs. But if Argentina had been more enthusiastic about Haig's plan, that would have forced the prime minister in an embarrassing position because several of the Haig proposals were not acceptable to the British government.

Thatcher would have been faced with the unpleasant choice of pushing ahead with military action without US support, or of entering more protracted negotiations while the British fleet bobbed around uncomfortably in the South Atlantic.

It was the Argentine junta that came to Thatcher's rescue. Its rejection of the Haig plan marked the end, at least for

now, of Washington's mediating role in the crisis. There was much relief in London when, on Friday, the Reagan Administration finally came down on Britain's side.

US support was also the green light for Thatcher to tighten the screw militarily. Within 24 hours of Haig's statement in Washington, British Vulcan bombers and Harrier jump jets were bombing the islands' airstrip at Port Stanley to enforce the British blockade. The British woke up yesterday morning to discover that the fighting had begun.

So far the mood of the British public has been solidly behind Thatcher. Her standing since Argentina seized the Falklands on April 2 has risen with the events. Last week she scored a 76 percent approval rating. In today's London Sunday Times, the Conservatives have risen dramatically to a 13-point lead over the Labor opposition, whose support has slumped.

But these figures are deceptive. More in-depth opinion surveys show no enthusiasm for spilling British blood over the Falklands. The same Sunday Times poll shows that 80 percent of the public do not think retaking the Falklands is worth one British life. There is no war fever, despite the efforts of Britain's notorious right-wing popular press, whose bellicose nationalistic coverage of the crisis is a reminder of the 19th-century yellow journalism of the United States and a revival of the old Hearst dictum, "You give us a story, we'll give you the war."

Public support for continuing peace efforts has been strong. Haig's personal standing in Britain has shot up, admittedly from a low start. The polls suggest Thatcher's position could crumble now that the shooting has started, especially if Britain suffers a military reverse. This is

a nation eager for a "spectator's war" in which principles and justice must be upheld — provided nobody gets hurt.

The Labor Party opposition is aware of this soft underbelly of public opinion, which is one reason why it places so much stress on using the good offices of the United Nations. A bitter clash between Thatcher and Michael Foot, the Labor leader, in the House of Commons on Tuesday over a possible UN role, was seen by many as heralding the end of the bipartisan approach to the Falklands. But government policy is too popular for the Labor Party to attack outright, and Thatcher still stresses her hopes for a negotiated settlement. Thursday's parliamentary debate was more even-tempered, and the fragile agreement between the Conservative and Labor parties survived another week intact.

Foot is under pressure from the Labor left, led by Tony Benn, to reneg and to come out against the whole venture. Benn is gambling Britain will lose the battle of the Falklands. If it does not, this far-left politician will have given succor to Argentina's fascist regime.

Foot and his advisers have been more cautious. James Callaghan, the former Labor Party prime minister, has warned Foot in a private letter that Labor must continue to support the government. The Labor leader finished his speech in the House of Commons on Thursday with a demand for Britain to "try and try and try again to secure a peaceful settlement." If a bloody shooting war breaks out, he has positioned his party to break with the government.

The dispatch of Foreign Secretary Francis Pym to New York this weekend for talks with the United Nations will steady bipartisan politics for a little longer. Thatcher and Pym still seem deter-



Prince Charles in uniform as Colonel of Welsh Guards in Camarthen, Wales, where he wished the town's men well should they be called up for duty in the Falkland Islands.

AP PHOTO

mined to search for a negotiated settlement, even though the shooting has started.

It was a good week for Thatcher. It was the Argentines who had been seemed to reject peace. Washington had come down firmly on London's side. The naval blockade was under way. Her own Conservative Party was solidly behind her. And Labor support survived another difficult week. Now the prime minister's future is in the hands of her naval and army commandos 8000 miles away.

Haig, Pym to confer

From Wire Services

—WASHINGTON—The Falkland Islands crisis reached "a very dangerous phase" yesterday when the British bombed the islands' major airstrip in an attack that took the United States by surprise, the State Department said.

President Ronald Reagan said the British attack on the Argentine-occupied archipelago in the South Atlantic was "a complete surprise" to the United States.

Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig was in his seventh floor office at the State Department, monitoring reports of the building military operation in the South Atlantic. With Reagan in Knoxville, Tenn., to speak at the opening of the World's Fair and Vice President George Bush in the Far East, Haig was the "operational control officer" for the crisis.

Haig will meet today with British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, who flew to Washington yesterday, to discuss Reagan's offer of possible materiel support for the British fleet.

Upon his arrival at Dulles International Airport, Pym said Britain still seeks a peaceful resolution of its dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands, but is prepared to use additional force if necessary.

"You tend to get a more satisfactory and fair result if you negotiate from strength," he said.

The foreign minister said British strategy during the month-long dispute over control of the South Atlantic islands was to apply "inexorable pressure" through diplomatic, economic and military means "to indicate quite clearly that aggression does not pay. And I would have thought that recent events would have brought this home rather sharply," he added.

Pym — accompanied by Sir Nicholas Henderson, Britain's ambassador to the United States — reiterated his country's position that Argentina must remove its forces from the Falklands.

Pym arrived in Washington from New York, where earlier yesterday he had met with British UN Ambassador Anthony Parsons.

In London, government officials said Pym would not ask for a "laundry list" of American arms to support Britain's effort to reclaim the Falklands. But Britain is interested in fuel for the fleet and the use of giant CS Galaxy transports to ferry supplies. Reagan said no American forces would be involved.

Meanwhile, the Argentine embassy in Washington released the text of a letter sent Thursday from Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez to Haig saying that the latest US plan "cannot be accepted" by Argentina.

Haig said Friday the letter constituted rejection of the final US compromise plan for a negotiated settlement of the crisis, but Costa Mendez denied it was a rejection.

In the letter, the foreign minister said the plan "falls short" of Argentine demands because it failed to recognize Argentine sovereignty over the islands, or to set up provisional administration of the islands for a set time with "progressive Argentine participation."

Yesterday, Reagan said before leaving for Tennessee, "We still stand ready to help and hope to get a peaceful solution."

Asked if it appeared there now would be full-scale hostilities, Reagan said, "No, I don't believe that they have to necessarily follow."

Pym planned to meet Haig at the State Department at 10 a.m. EDT today. The talks will move to the British embassy for lunch and Pym planned an afternoon news conference before going to New York to confer with Secretary General Perez de Cuellar at the United Nations.

There have been published reports that Britain can sustain its warships for 90 days with the fuel, food, spare parts and ammunition already with the fleet or en route to it.

However, Pentagon officials are known to think that this estimate is way too generous.

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Crisis in the Falklands: New Move on Diplomatic Front

U.N. Chief Intensifies Effort To Come Up With Solution

By BERNARD D. NOSSITER
Special to The New York Times

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., May 2 — Secretary General Javier Pérez de Cuéllar began an intensive diplomatic effort today to find a solution for the conflict over the Falkland Islands.

Until now, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar has held back to avoid interference with the mediation efforts of Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. But the collapse of the Haig mission has brought the United Nations leader to the center of the diplomatic stage.

His aides declined to label Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar's labor as mediation. Britain objects to being put on a par with Argentina, whose forces seized the islands and refused to heed a Security Council demand to withdraw.

However, the Secretary General, a Peruvian, is engaging in all the elements of mediation, listening to both sides and presenting possible answers to save faces and restore peace.

Meetings Are Set

His spokesman, François Giuliani, recalled the self-imposed restraint demanded by Mr. Haig's attempt and said: "But obviously, now there is a different situation. If the Secretary General can play a role, this is the time for it. The United Nations is ready to help and he is personally willing to help the parties find a solution."

Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar set up meetings today with representatives of the two sides. He was to talk with Foreign Secretary Francis Pym of Britain at a working dinner tonight. Earlier, the Secretary General scheduled a meeting with the chief Argentine delegate to the world body, Eduardo Roca. Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar saw Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez of Argentina on Friday.

Mr. Costa Méndez said then that his nation would accept a United Nations role to settle the conflict. The British have not been so forthcoming, although an aide to Mr. Pym said today that United Nations involvement was not excluded.

Earlier in the day, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar for the first time chaired his task force, which has been drawing up Falkland plans for nearly three weeks. The task force is led by Rafeuddin Ahmed of Pakistan, a special representative of the Secretary General. Its membership includes two Americans, James Sutterlin and George L. Sherry.

Proposes U.N. Peacekeepers

Among the proposals the task force has reportedly discussed is a plan for the simultaneous withdrawal from the islands of the Argentine troops and the British fleet. This would be coupled with some pledge from Britain that could lead to ultimate sovereignty by Argentina over the Falklands.

The task force is also said to be working on details for a United Nations presence on the islands, including peacekeepers, temporary administrators or both. Mr. Sherry works in the peacekeeping office of Brian Urquhart, an Under Secretary General. Virtually every crisis at the United Nations brings Mr. Urquhart to the heart of the affair, but his British nationality bars him from this one.

Finally, Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar conferred with the Security Council's current president, Ling Qing of China. They issued a joint statement, expressing "their profound concern in view of the heightened hostilities" over the Falklands.

British diplomats have already indicated that they would not welcome further intervention by the Security Council. That body would probably call for a halt to the fighting and Britain believes that it must maintain military pressure on the islands to insure Argentina's withdrawal. Britain, as a permanent member, could veto any unwelcome Security Council resolution, but that move would be embarrassing.

However, with Security Council approval, President Ling might ask Mr. Pérez de Cuéllar to try to settle the dispute. That would give the Secretary General the formal mandate with which he feels most comfortable.

Some United Nations analysts think the time is ripe for a quick political solution. As one put it, "The British are clobbering the Argentines but the Argentines haven't collapsed. That's the time for settlement."

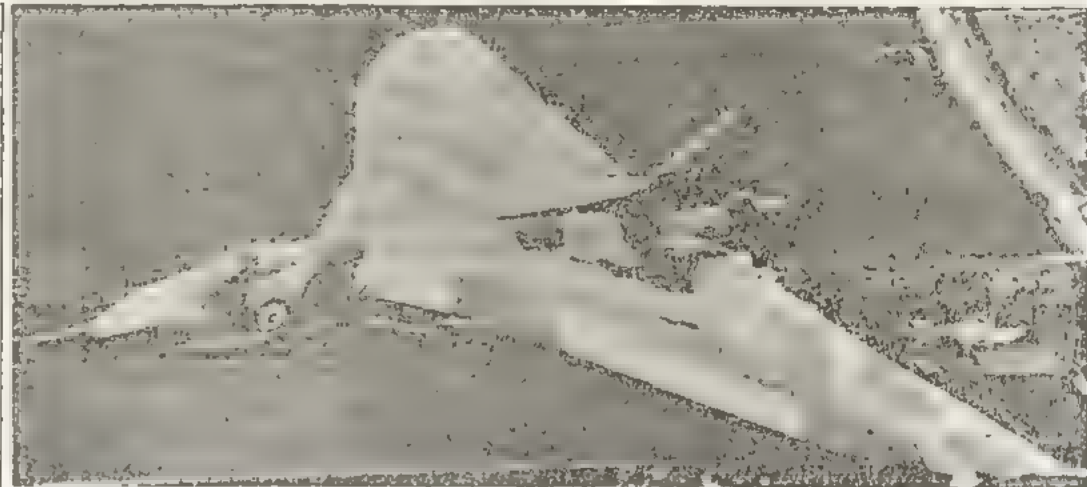
Briton Cites the Bard On Argentine Claims

LONDON, May 2 (Reuters) — Britain's Defense Ministry drew upon Shakespeare today to respond to reports by Argentina that it downed five British jets over the Falklands Saturday.

Asked at a news conference about the Argentine account, a ministry spokesman, Ian McDonald, said, "I refer you to 'Hamlet,' Act 3, Scene 4, lines 51 and 54."

He offered no more, but a page from "Hamlet" was promptly pinned on a bulletin board alongside the military communiqué.

The cited quotation, in which Hamlet contrasts his noble father with the father's brother and murderer, reads, "Look here, upon this picture, and on this, the counterfeit presentment of two brothers."



A Royal Air Force Vulcan bomber of the type used to attack one of the airfields in the Falklands. The planes were about to be retired.

Falklands Raid: Baptism of Fire for Aging Bomber

By DREW MIDDLETON
Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 2 — The Royal Air Force reached back to the technology of the 1950s and an aircraft first deployed as a nuclear bomber in 1950 to mount the single most effective attack of Britain's Falklands Islands conflict.

Plucked out of impending retirement, a Vulcan made the 3,500-mile flight from Ascension Island and attacked the runway at the Stanley airfield. According to British reports, the attack effectively put the airfield out of operation by cratering the runway. The bomber was apparently refueled in flight by a Victor tanker.

The operation seemed to prove the workhorse of the long-range bomber in conventional warfare. United States Air Force sources pointed out that America had also used elderly bombers, the B-52s, first deployed in 1959 and the B-52D, dating from 1962, effectively for conventional attacks in Vietnam in the late 1960s and early 70s.

Like the Vulcan, the B-52 was designed to drop nuclear bombs. Like the Vulcan, it never has.

No one was happier over the reappearance of the heavy bomber in the Falklands than two of the foremost advocates of what was called "heavy bombardment" in World War II.

Former Air Commanders

One was Marshal of the Royal Air Force Sir Arthur Harris, who com-

manded the Royal Air Force's Bomber Command during the second half of the war. He is 90 years old. The other was Lt. Gen. James Doolittle, a former commander of the American Eighth Air Force, now 86.

They were in London for a reunion of the surviving aircrew of Bomber Command. Sir Arthur was typically outspoken about the Vulcan attack.

He emphasized the importance of knocking out runways so that our enemy, if he is worth calling that, cannot use them."

The British, he added, "have done exactly what should be done, trying to destroy the runway that the enemy is using. I would have done exactly that."

Calls for Heavier Bombs

Sir Arthur, as he left a commemorative service at St. Clement Dane's Church, added that if he had been in command he would have used heavier bombs than the 1,000-pound missiles dropped by the Vulcan. This, he said, would have resulted in craters even bigger than those 30 feet across and 20 feet deep that were left by the Vulcan.

The R.A.F.'s A4 Vulcans were scheduled to be phased out of service this summer, to be replaced by a small fleet of ballistic missile submarines and R.A.F. Buccaneers and Jaguar strike aircraft.

Neither of these aircraft has the range of the Vulcan. Nor do they have other qualities such as the ability to fly at 55,000 feet, out of range of surface-to-air missiles, or to approach a target "on

the deck," thus avoiding enemy radar in the attack on the Stanley airfield. Neither of these qualities was important. According to Ministry of Defense officials, all radar on and around the airfield had been jammed by electronic countermeasures.

When it first flew in the 60's, the Vulcan was the world's first delta-wing bomber, with a speed of Mach 0.95 or almost the speed of sound. In its day the Vulcan, like the B-52, was considered capable of penetrating Soviet air defenses to hit targets in the interior.

Changes in Technology

Technology and time caught up with the Vulcan. Submarine-launched ballistic missiles improved in accuracy. The submarines that fired them were believed less easy to hit than bombers tied to airfields. The development of the surface-to-air missile linked to radar increased the difficulty of getting through Soviet defenses.

The confrontation with Argentina over the Falklands resurrected the Vulcan. The immediate need was for a heavy bomber based on Ascension Island that could reach Stanley. The Vulcan was the only answer, although the Ministry of Defense appeared far from happy about the choice.

On April 18 the ministry announced that it was modifying 10 Vulcans to carry conventional bombs. The bomb load was the only answer, although the Ministry of Defense appeared far from happy about the choice.

On April 18 the ministry announced that it was modifying 10 Vulcans to carry conventional bombs. The bomb load was the only answer, although the Ministry of Defense appeared far from happy about the choice.

quire a capability to deciding to use that capability," a Ministry of Defense official said at the time.

Little Time Needed

In the event it took less than two weeks to modify the Vulcan, train the crews and for the British Chiefs of Staff to realize that they had a weapon that could complete the air and sea blockade of the Falklands by knocking out the airfield.

The Vulcans were sent to the coast of Scotland to train in conventional bombing. One was chosen for the Stanley mission with a second available as a backup aircraft.

R.A.F. sources, rejoicing in what they said was the lone Vulcan's success, argued that time or more of the bombers could be used again in the unlikely event that the Argentines repaired the airfield at Stanley.

But in all probability the Stanley raid was the Vulcan's first and last combat mission.

New Tremor in Yugoslavia

BELGRADE, Yugoslavia, May 2 (Reuters) — A strong earth tremor today, the second in 24 hours, shook the Montenegrin coastal region of Yugoslavia, an area devastated three years ago by a huge earthquake, officials said. There were no reports of casualties or damage in either tremor.

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THE NEW YORK TIMES

Crisis in the Falklands: How U.S. Planned Diplomatic Effort

The Details of Haig's Peace Mission
And When He Realized It Would Fail

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 1 — For Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr., the moment when he and his aides realized that his diplomatic efforts to resolve the Falkland Islands crisis would probably fail occurred in the early evening of April 19.

As he prepared to depart with what he believed was a concession from the Argentine junta to skirt the issue of sovereignty over the islands, Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez arrived at the Buenos Aires airport and asked for a private meeting.

He told Secretary Haig that there had been a last-minute change of mind by the junta. The plan that had been hammered out in four days of talks ending at 2 A.M. that morning had to be amended to guarantee Argentine sovereignty over the islands. In other words, Argentina had withdrawn its concession.

Mr. Haig, who had earlier considered going directly to London, flew on to Washington for one last round of activity that culminated in the announcement on Friday that the month of diplomatic efforts had failed.

Little Flexibility on Either Side

In talks today with American officials close to the negotiations, it is evident that neither Argentina nor Britain was willing or politically able to show the kind of flexibility needed to produce a compromise. The officials also said that the United States became aware of the impending crisis only a few days before Argentine forces occupied the Falklands on April 2.

According to American officials, the first sign of the seriousness of the situation occurred on March 25 when the British Foreign Office alerted the State Department to expect a message from Lord Carrington, then Foreign Secretary, about a dispute between Argentina and Britain over some Argentine workers who had arrived on South Georgia Island, a dependency of the Falklands, hoisted an Argentine flag and refused to be registered by island authorities in the regular way.

The message did not arrive until Saturday night, March 27, and it asked for American help in resolving the problem, which by then had become a major story to the Argentine press, with reports of military movements by Argentine forces to settle the question of sovereignty.

Talks Lasted 17 Years

Argentina had been engaged in desultory negotiations with the British for 17 years on the status of the islands, claimed by both sides. Some of the Argentine negotiators had been involved for the whole period.

The request was considered so routine that it was given to Deputy Secretary Walter T. Stoessel Jr. to handle. He called in the British and Argentine Ambassadors on Monday, March 29, to offer American "good offices," not on the overall question of sovereignty but just on the dispute over the workers.

The British Ambassador, Sir Nicholas Henderson, reported to Mr. Stoessel that London was receiving signs indicating that Argentina planned an invasion.

On March 30, the United States Ambassador in Buenos Aires, Harry W. Shlaudeman, a longtime Latin American specialist, went in with the same offer to Mr. Costa Méndez, who told him that Argentina was not interested in a "face-saving remedy" and that it did not want the United States to intervene unless it was ready to negotiate the question of sovereignty, not just the workers.

Warning About Invasion

The next day, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher sent an urgent letter to President Reagan saying Britain believed an invasion was imminent. Sir Nicholas then brought in the full intelligence report that convinced Mr. Haig that an attack was about to take place.

Mr. Haig ordered the department to produce contingency plans, and a special working group was established the next day.

On April 1, Mr. Shlaudeman, acting under instructions, saw Mr. Costa Méndez in the morning and President Leopoldo Galtieri in the early evening to seek assurances against an invasion, but he was rebuffed.

Mr. Haig called in the Argentine Ambassador and President Reagan telephoned General Galtieri. The Argentine President told Mr. Reagan it was "too late," even though Mr. Reagan warned him that such an attack would rupture chances for improved relations between Washington and Buenos Aires and that Argentina would be regarded as an aggressor.

Mr. Reagan offered to send Vice President Bush to serve as a mediator, but this was rejected by General Galtieri.

Invasion Had Begun at Times

In fact, Mr. Costa Méndez later told Mr. Haig that when Mr. Reagan spoke to General Galtieri, the invasion had already begun.

On April 3, the day after the occupation, the United Nations Security Council passed Resolution 502 which demanded an end to hostilities, the withdrawal of Argentine forces and a diplomatic settlement of the dispute.

The United States voted for the British-sponsored resolution, then decided that instead of simply siding with Britain, it would try to act as a mediator.

This decision, officials said, was essentially taken on April 5 in a morning meeting in Mr. Haig's office involving his key aides. Mr. Haig decided to become actively involved in settling the crisis if the two parties requested it, and Mr. Reagan gave his consent.

The Secretary called in the Argentine and British Ambassadors and saw Mr. Costa Méndez, who was in Washington to present Argentina's case to the Organization of American States. That evening, Mr. Costa Méndez telephoned Mr. Haig to say that President Galtieri had invited him to Buenos Aires.

Alternatives Were Poor

The decision by Mr. Haig was prompted by a feeling at the senior levels of the department that the visible alternatives to American mediation were poor. If left to the O.A.S. to mediate, it was felt that a split would occur immediately between Spanish- and English-speaking members, and hemispheric unity would be fractured early in the crisis.

Had it been left to the United Nations, it could have taken on north-south overtones, a senior official said on Friday, "imperialism and colonialism versus the developing world."

In addition, Mr. Haig was concerned about the possibility of the Soviet Union's becoming involved. Mr. Haig's concerns were heightened on April 10, during his first visit to Buenos Aires, when the Cuban Ambassador, who had been absent for more than a year, returned with offers of Cuban help.

The involvement of the Soviet Union and Cuba on Argentina's side is not clear. There have been reports that the Soviet side offered to provide Argentina with intelligence information and that Cuba offered military help, but the Argentines have denied this.

A senior official said on Friday, "I would not be justified in suggesting that there are any near term, verified indicators of a dramatic or direct Soviet involvement at this point."

Mr. Reagan approved Mr. Haig's mission at a special "mini-National Security Council meeting" on April 7, the day the President left for a long-planned Caribbean trip.

In Mr. Haig's first round of talks with Mr. Thatcher and the new British Foreign Secretary, Francis Pym, on April

8, the British made it clear that they would not agree to any compromise by which Argentina seemed to be rewarded for the invasion of the Falklands.

And Mrs. Thatcher said that while Britain would be willing to negotiate on the ultimate status of the islands, the will of the inhabitants, who are of British stock and have pro-British sentiments, had to play a major role in any decision.

Mr. Haig then flew to Buenos Aires, where he met with President Galtieri and Mr. Costa Méndez on April 10. As a result of those talks, the Argentines gave him a five-point draft agreement which called for an immediate halt to hostilities, phased withdrawal of Argentine forces from the islands and British forces from the area, the ending of economic sanctions imposed by Britain (later imposed also by the Common Market), the start of immediate negotiations for a definitive solution to the crisis, adequate protection for the interests of the inhabitants of the islands, and establishment of an interim period of administration of the island with a deadline of Dec. 31 to reach "a definitive agreement."

Sovereignty Was Issue

This outline was viewed with interest by the American side, but the problem, never resolved, was the Argentine insistence that it would negotiate only "on the understanding clearly stated from the beginning that Argentine sovereignty over the Malvinas Islands is nonnegotiable and that such a premise would be unequivocally reflected in the results of the negotiations."

When Mr. Haig flew to London on the night of April 11, he felt that there might be some flexibility in the Argentine position, but as the result of two phone calls he picked from London to Mr. Costa Méndez, he discovered that in the two days since his talks in Buenos Aires, the Argentine insistence on sovereignty being guaranteed had stiffened.

Since the British were not ready to make any concessions either, Mr. Haig returned to Washington on April 15 to report to Mr. Reagan before going back to Argentina.

In Buenos Aires, Mr. Haig became frustrated by the difficulty of finding a clear-cut negotiator with authority to make a deal. He met extensively with Mr. Costa Méndez and the Foreign Ministry experts and had several long sessions with General Galtieri and other members of the junta.

British Recapture South Georgia

One of Mr. Haig's aides said that Mr. Haig found himself watching an Argentine version of "musical chairs," since so many different military men were being brought into the talks.

After the talks in Argentina ended at the airport with Mr. Costa Méndez essentially telling Mr. Haig that sovereignty was still nonnegotiable, Mr. Haig returned to Washington for talks with Mr. Pym. After those talks proved inconclusive, the British last Sunday recaptured South Georgia Island, where the crisis started.

Mr. Haig had hoped to go back to Argentina for one last effort, but the junta told him to remain in Washington. From here, he sent a reworked American draft to both London and Buenos Aires in the early morning hours of April 17. Mrs. Thatcher replied by asking Mr. Haig to send her the Argentine response.

Two days later, Mr. Costa Méndez gave Mr. Haig the Argentine reply. In it, the Argentine Government said it was willing to show flexibility only if it was guaranteed total sovereignty as the ultimate result of negotiations or was given control of the temporary administration of the island.

The document sent by the Secretary of State falls short of meeting Argentine demands and does not satisfy Argentina's minimum aspirations regarding the two points, that is, recognition of sovereignty and form of provisional administration, the latter said, as released today by the Argentine government.

That reply, combined with signs that Britain was about to attack the Falklands, led Mr. Reagan on Friday to acknowledge that Mr. Haig's mission had failed and to sign the United States on Britain's side.

36 Poles Stay in West Berlin
After Hijacked Plane Returns

WEST BERLIN, May 1 (Reuters) — A Polish airliner hijacked to West Berlin on Friday was flown back to Poland today but the 3 hijackers and 28 other passengers stayed in the West seeking political asylum, the police said.

Sixteen passengers, including six security agents, flew back to Warsaw.

The hijackers overpowered security guards on a flight from Wrocław to Warsaw and forced the plane to land at the American military airport in West Berlin.

Wives accompanied four of the hijackers and there were also 10 children, a sister and a friend.

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Spontaneous who live in Buenos Aires gather at San Martín Square to voice support for Argentina.

In Buenos Aires, Concern Amid Quiet Patriotism

By JAMES M. MARKHAM

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, May 1— The British air attack on the airfields of the Falkland Islands caught Buenos Aires on a languid, hot May Day holiday. On the city's deserted streets, people voiced anxiety and quiet patriotism.

In the Plaza de Mayo, a group of men sat on stone benches and listened to a radio announcer give the news in the excited tones of a sportscaster describing a photo finish in a horse race.

"They are two barriers were shot down," said a young man holding the radio.

"Who says that?" asked a distinguished-looking, older man with an impeccably groomed silver mustache.

The Uruguayan radio, answered the young man. "It's giving more news." Meanwhile, the Uruguayan capital, is only 130 miles away across the miles, brown Rio de la Plata.

'We All This Woman's Fault'

The man with the radio offered an explanation of the British willingness to fight to regain the Falklands that is fairly widespread here.

"It's all this woman's fault," he said, speaking of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. "She sends the fleet to its death, and then goes off to her house — it's some kind of harm — in the countryside for the weekend. She's crazy."

"We don't have anything against the English people, or the Americans," the man with the radio said.

A boxy police van was parked in the shade of trees near the American Embassy compound. The van was put there to guard the embassy three weeks ago, just after the Falklands crisis erupted.

Although the United States has openly sided with Britain in the dispute, there was little anti-American feeling in Buenos Aires. Maj. Gen. Alfredo St. Jean, the Interior Minister, has repeatedly argued that Argentines respect the well-being of foreigners in their midst.

'We Didn't Show'

One couple — the wife a lawyer, the husband a doctor — sat on a park bench and spoke of the visit by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. to Buenos Aires last month to press the junta for concessions on the Falklands.

They said they were able to watch him from their luxury apartment as he played tennis at the United States Embassy residence below.

"But we didn't about nasty things down at him," joked the woman. "We know about NATO that Britain is an ally of states of the United States and we

know that we are not exactly an ally of states of the United States. The economic sanctions are what we expected — but we don't expect the United States to bombard Argentina! Against the British, well, we will fight them."

"I don't know," said her husband. "The history of the United States since 1945 is not so reassuring — Korea, Viet Nam and now Reagan is going to have all of Latin America against him."

The press, which came out today for the first time under sweeping self-censorship "guidelines" issued by the Joint Chiefs of Staff, minimized the drama and impact of the American sanctions. Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, just back from the United States, said he "lamented very much the American measures taken against Argentina."

The Diplomatic Answer

"We have given the military answer," he said, speaking of the British attack. "But we are still trying the diplomatic."

Roberto Alemann, the Economics Minister, characterized the American

sanctions as "immocratic" for Argentina, and dismissed the possibility of countermeasures.

"We do not lend money to the United States," he said, "and we will not limit guarantees for our exporters to sell to them. If the United States wants to hurt its own exporters, it's their business. But for Argentina it's not reasonable to apply a symmetric measure."

Argentina's out-of-power civilian politicians have been more strident in their protestations. Saul Lelith, a Peronist trade union leader, expressed "consternation" at the American move, arguing that support for Britain contradicted "what President Menem said once about America for the people of the Americas."

Lorenzo Miguel, another union chief, said "We are very preoccupied, because we thought we were allies. I am sure that the workers are not going to forget this act."

Cecar Almeida, a leftist leader, said the British assault and the American response demonstrated that "our allies are the Latin American countries and the misaligned."

Tokyo Backs Common Market

Special to The New York Times

TOKYO, May 1— Japan notified Argentina that it had decided to take economic actions against the South American country in response to official requests from Britain, the Foreign Ministry announced today.

The ministry said that Japan would suspend imports of Argentine goods beginning next Tuesday to strengthen the economic sanctions imposed against Argentina by the United States and the European Economic Community.

Japan will also halt the granting of official credits to the South American country. These measures are designed to force Argentina to withdraw its troops from the Falkland Islands.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was told of Japan's readiness to take sanctions in a letter from Prime Minister Zenshiro Sasaki on April 28, the ministry said.

The ministry said that Japan decided to impose sanctions against Argentina after Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.'s efforts to mediate the crisis produced no results.

Private businesses in Japan had been cautioned against taking advantage of the Common Market sanctions against

Argentina.

According to sources at the Foreign Ministry, the sanctions will remain in force for about two months while officials study further developments.

Total trade between Japan and Argentina amounts to about \$1 billion a year.

Top Zimbabwe Military Man To Quit After Less Than Year

SALISBURY, Zimbabwe, May 1 (Reuters) — Zimbabwe's top soldier is retiring after less than a year in the post, the Defense Ministry announced today.

In a brief statement, the ministry said Gen. Sandy MacLean, 50 years old, a former commander of the Rhodesian Army, was on leave pending early retirement.

Gen. Reg Mhomo, former commander of the guerrilla forces and now the army commander, is expected to become head of the military forces.

Basis for U.S. Action Is Cited

By ROBERT D. McFADDEN

Special to The New York Times

The legal basis of United States support for Britain in the dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands was touched upon though not spelled out Friday by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. But legal experts said that international law appeared to justify the action.

Argentina's military occupation of the Falklands on April 2—a move to enforce its longstanding claim to sovereignty over islands that have been British dependencies—was an apparent violation of a United Nations Charter provision prohibiting the use of force to resolve territorial disputes, according to one legal scholar.

The scholar, a professor of international law, said that under the 1945 United Nations Charter Britain had the right to defend the islands and Argentina had the obligation to bring its claim to the islands before international authorities before using force.

The charter also would seem to impose a general obligation on all 160 signatory nations to come to the aid of a victim of aggression. This would appear to be the primary basis, in the present crisis, for United States support of Britain, the scholar said.

The 1949 North Atlantic Treaty limited the obligation of NATO signatories to mutual defense against aggressive attacks in Europe or North America, but some legal experts said the spirit if not the letter of that pact also supported the United States decision.

Britain has not appealed to the United Nations in the Falklands dispute, and neither the Security Council nor the General Assembly has invoked action to resolve it. "But even if nothing has been said," one scholar noted, "the parties to a treaty are obliged to see that its terms are upheld."

Argentina's claim to the Falklands, the scholar said, "doesn't justify the

use of force" under the United Nations Charter. "Peace is the primary concern," he said. "In this view, peace is more important than justice."

Until Friday, the United States had been officially neutral. In announcing support for Britain and military and economic sanctions against Argentina, Mr. Haig noted Argentina's "failure to accept a compromise," and added, "we must take concrete steps to underscore that the United States cannot and will not condone the use of unlawful force to resolve disputes."

2 Portuguese Die of Wounds After Police and Union Clash

OPORTO, Portugal, May 1 (Reuters) — Two young workers died of bullet wounds early today after a night of violent clashes between security forces and pro-Communist demonstrators in this northern city, a hospital spokesman said.

The spokesman said more than 100 people were treated, 10 of them for bullet wounds.

The trouble began shortly before midnight in the main square of Portugal's second largest city. Supporters of Portugal's largest labor federation, which is Communist-dominated, tried to break up a May Day show by a rival union controlled by Socialists.

Hundreds of local police repeatedly drove back the pro-Communist demonstrators with baton charges. Later, eight busloads of riot policemen from Lisbon helped clear the city center.

THINK FRESH:
THINK FRESH AIR FUND



Associated Press

BRITISH HEIR COMMENTS ON FALKLANDS: Prince Charles, wearing the uniform of colonel in chief of the Welsh Guards, inspecting the regiment in Carmarthen, Wales, with the city's Mayor. Speaking of the Falkland crisis, the Prince wished the regiment well, should it be sent to serve there.

May 2 '82

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SUNDAY, MAY 2, 1982

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The Details of Haig's Peace Mission And When He Realized It Would Fail

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN
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He told Secretary Haig that there had been a last minute change of mind by the junta. The plan that had been hammered out in four days of talks ending at 2 A.M. that morning had to be amended to guarantee Argentine sovereignty over the islands. In other words, Argentina had withdrawn its concession.

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Little Flexibility on Either Side

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Invasion Had Begun at Time

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Spaniards who live in Buenos Aires gather at San Martín Square to voice support for Argentina.

The New York Times

Crisis in the Falklands: Britons Voice Their Thanks to U.S.

Britons Show Gratitude For American Support

By WILLIAM BORDERS
Special to The New York Times

LONDON, May 1—The United States support in the confrontation with Argentina was received in Britain today with enormous gratitude and a sense of relief at the sight of two old allies back in the same corner.

"Yanks A Million," screamed The Sun, the country's largest circulation newspaper in a front-page headline. The Times made the same point more sedately in an editorial, titled, "A Friend Indeed." And in sun-drenched Trafalgar Square, a welder named Robert Leland, who with his two young sons was feeding the pigeons, said:

"It's one of those times, isn't it, when you've got to stand up for what's right just because it's right. That's what we've done over there in the Falklands, and we're glad to have the Americans with us."

Throughout the weeks that Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. was acting as a mediator between Argentina and Britain, spokesmen for the Government here said repeatedly that they understood the necessity for the United States to avoid siding with one or the other in order to retain the confidence of both. Time and again, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher went out of her way to praise Mr. Haig, calling him tireless and his peace mission splendid.

U.S. Had Been Criticized

But the public — and some opposition Members of Parliament — did not always see it that way. In one of the earlier debates on the Falklands crisis, David Owen, the foreign affairs spokesman of the new Social Democratic Party, criticized the United States with the observation that "it is not possible to be neutral between the fire and the fire brigade."

Prime Minister Thatcher has been a particularly strong ally of the United States during her three years in office. When the American hostages were being held in Iran, Britain's support was unwavering and just last month it was the only Western European country to send observers to the election in El Salvador, doing so at the behest of the United States.

In recent weeks, Mrs. Thatcher made it clear several times that she expected the United States to support Britain strongly in the Falklands crisis if its mediation effort ended. When that finally happened Friday, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, speaking for the Government, said:

"The British people are deeply grateful to the United States. I am extremely glad that the United States has come down decisively on the side of Britain."

In common with several other newspapers, The Times pointed out in its editorial today that the United States decision to impose sanctions against Argentina would raise difficulties for it elsewhere in the Western Hemisphere. But that made the decision all the more admirable, it said, thus gaining the American support on this side of the Atlantic.

'Generous and Wholehearted'

"The decision must be reassuring elsewhere in Europe," The Times said, "showing as it does that when it comes to the hard point, the United States is a friend and ally which can be counted on."

The Guardian said that President Reagan had had a "stinking choice" — between the old ally across the water and the new ally at the toe of the Americas — and called the decision that the United States made "both generous and wholehearted."

In the month since the Argentine invasion, Britons have got over the wry amusement with which they first viewed the Falklands crisis.

But some of their comments on it are still tinged with a sense of curiosity that the British fleet is really involved in such an adventure so far away.

That spirit, coupled with the lingering British bewilderment at the idea of having a former movie star for President of the United States, was reflected in the paragraph with which The Sun began its front-page story today:

"Good old Ronald Reagan finally came galloping over the hill yesterday to stand by Britain in its war with Argentina."



At a news conference in London, Ian MacDonald, a British Defense Ministry spokesman, describes the raids.

U.S. Says Argentina Can Make A-Bomb Soon

By JUDITH MILLER
Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, May 1 — Argentina will soon be able to make its own weapons-grade nuclear material, according to Administration and Congressional officials.

Though there have been no startling developments in Argentina's atomic energy program, Reagan Administration officials say the program has come under increased scrutiny because of the Falkland Islands crisis.

Some Administration policy makers are concerned that Argentina's cooperation with Britain might prompt President Leopoldo Galtieri to start building a nuclear bomb, especially if a peaceful or military resolution of the Falklands dispute results in a loss of face for Buenos Aires.

Senator Alan Cranston, the Democratic whip, said in the Senate last week that Argentina had "the theoretical capability to produce nuclear bomb-grade material in significant quantities within the next two years."

The Central Intelligence Agency has estimated that Argentina could build a nuclear weapon within three to five years if it chooses.

Weapons Plan Denied

Adm. Carlos Castro Madero, head of Argentina's National Commission on Atomic Energy, has repeatedly said his country would not develop atomic weapons. But he has consistently declined to rule out the possibility of detonating a so-called peaceful nuclear explosion. Last month Admiral Madero said Argentina might use such nuclear explosions for mining and canal construction.

The focus of United States concern is Argentina's unwillingness so far to accept international monitoring of a small, nearly completed plutonium plant designed to separate plutonium and uranium from nuclear fuel. Argentina has refused to accept international inspection at the reprocessing plant, situated at Esmeralda, near Buenos Aires, because it says it was produced without foreign help and is therefore not subject to international safeguards.

In an interview last fall with the BBC, Admiral Madero said the plant, which can reprocess up to 25 tons of spent nuclear fuel a year, would begin operating without radioactive material this summer and with radioactive fuel in the spring of 1983. He said Argentina would not exclude the possibility of exporting some of the plutonium produced in the plant.

Plutonium, a man-made substance that is extremely toxic, is a primary atomic weapons source. Scientists say only 11 to 18 pounds are required to make an atomic device.

Admiral Madero stressed in an interview Feb. 10 that his country wanted plutonium for peaceful purposes, specifically for blending with uranium for power reactors and for use in breeder reactors.

Recent United States intelligence reports indicate that Argentina is preparing to build a 40-megawatt research reactor that would use heavy water and natural uranium, which is considered ideal as a small plutonium producer. Since the reactor would not be foreign supplied, it would also not be subject to international safeguards.

Argentina opened its Atucha I reactor built with West Germany's help in 1974. A second, also German-supplied, is expected to open in the mid-1980's. A third, the Canadian-supplied Embalse, is scheduled to start later this year.

On April 3 Argentina opened a nuclear plant to produce fuel for its reactors. Admiral Madero called the plant "a step toward self-sufficiency that will free Argentina from scientific and technological colonialism."

The production of fuel that manufactures fuel for Atucha I is subject to international inspection. A second one, intended to supply fuel for the Embalse reactor, is not subject to inspection. The Argentines built it themselves after Canada refused to provide assistance.

Soviet to Provide Help

On April 6 Argentina announced that the Soviet Union had agreed to enrich 4 tons of low-grade Argentine uranium into 220 pounds of 20 percent-enriched uranium fuel.

The International Atomic Energy Agency recently conducted inspections in Argentina and found no irregularities. The agency has been unsuccessfully trying to negotiate a single safeguards agreement that would cover all Argentine nuclear plants.

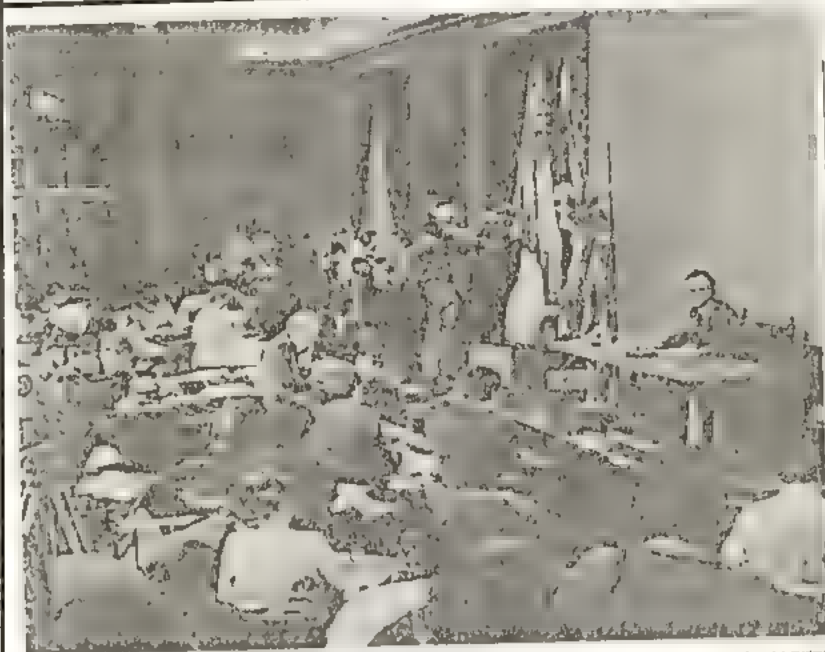
Argentina has refused to sign the 1968 treaty to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. It has signed, but not ratified, the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelolco, which bans nuclear weapons, but not peaceful nuclear explosions, in Latin America.

The Carter Administration, under the terms of a law designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, cut off all nuclear sales to Argentina.



"SEE YOU IN PORT STANLEY," said Rex Hunt, former British Governor of the Falklands, as he watched Royal Marine recruits Friday in Lyme Regis, England. Mr. Hunt left Stanley after the Argentine invasion.

Their Thanks to U.S.



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Plutonium, a man-made substance that is extremely toxic, is a primary atomic weapons source. Scientists say only .1 to .5 pounds are required to make an atomic device.

Admiral Madero stressed in an interview Feb. 10 that his country wanted plutonium for peaceful purposes specifically for blending with uranium for power reactors and for use in breeder reactors.

Recent United States intelligence reports indicate that Argentina is preparing to build a 40-megawatt research reactor that would use heavy water and natural uranium, which is considered safe as a small plutonium producer since the reactor would not be foreign supplied, it would also not be subject to international safeguards.

Argentina opened its Atucha I reactor built with West Germany's help in 1974. A second, also German-supplied, is expected to open in the mid-1980's. A third, the Canadian-supplied Embalse is scheduled to start after this year.

On April 3 Argentina opened a nuclear plant to produce fuel for its reactors. Admiral Madero called the plant "a step toward self-sufficiency that will free Argentina from scientific and technological colonialism."

The production use that manufactures fuel for Atucha I is subject to international inspection. A second line, intended to supply fuel for the Embalse reactor, is not subject to inspection. The Argentines built it themselves after Canada refused to provide assistance.

Soviet to Provide Help

On April 4 Argentina announced that the Soviet Union had agreed to enrich 4 tons of low-grade Argentine uranium into 230 pounds of 20 percent-enriched uranium fuel.

The International Atomic Energy Agency recently conducted inspections in Argentina and found no irregularities. The agency has been unsuccessfully trying to negotiate a single safeguards agreement that would cover all Argentine nuclear plants.

Argentina has refused to sign the 1968 treaty to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons. It has signed, but not ratified, the 1967 Treaty of Tlatelco, which bans nuclear weapons but not peaceful nuclear explosions in Latin America.

The Carter Administration, under the terms of a law designed to prevent the spread of nuclear weapons, cut off all nuclear sales to Argentina.

BRITAIN CRITICIZED BY PRESS IN SOVIET

Commentaries Accuse London
of Colonialist Aggression
and Say U.S. Backs It

By SERGE SCHMEMMANN

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, May 1 — The Soviet Union published press commentaries today attacking Britain and the United States over the Falkland Islands dispute but gave no indication of any direct Soviet involvement in the crisis.

The Soviet stance since Britain sent its warships toward the Falkland Islands has been to accuse Britain regularly of imperialist and colonialist aggression and to accuse Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. even before Washington's declaration of support for London on Friday of siding with the British in pursuit of American military-strategic goals in the South Atlantic.

On Friday when Washington announced limited sanctions against Argentina and support for Britain, the Soviet press agency Tass said. As is known, Washington from the very start vigorously supported its NATO partner, Britain, in its dispute with Argentina. Today's statements by Ronald Reagan and Alexander Haig mean only that Washington has discarded the mask of a "mediator" between London and Buenos Aires, a role that it so far tried to play.

Little More Than Propaganda

Initial reports in the Soviet press on the British attack on the airport at Stanley were brief and factual, but diplomats thought it inevitable that the Kremlin would denounce any British military action.

Although the Kremlin's press attacks have hardened in the course of the crisis, diplomats here doubt that the confrontation gives the Soviet Union much more than a propaganda opportunity.

They said there had been little indication that Soviet intelligence from surveillance of the British fleet — an activity Moscow could be expected to undertake when so large an adversary force sets sail — was being shared with Argentina, and none of the commentaries in the Soviet press have included any overt threat of active assistance for Argentina.

In any case, diplomats said, it was questionable whether Argentina would publicly welcome Soviet help.

The Soviet Union's most tangible concern in the conflict would be if it affected purchases of Argentine grain. Argentina's sales to Moscow swelled appreciably after Buenos Aires declined to join in the American grain embargo two years ago over the Soviet intervention in Afghanistan and set year against year. Soviet-Argentine diplomatic relations have become correspondingly more cordial.

No Threat to Grain Sales

But diplomats believe that the grain shipments are not jeopardized by the conflict in the Falklands since most of the grain leaves Buenos Aires, 1,000 miles to the north.

For all the propaganda support in its press, Moscow stopped short of using its United Nations Security Council veto against a resolution demanding the withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Falklands. Moscow abstained and since then press commentaries have generally glossed over the military occupation of the islands.

Instead, Pravda spoke only of Argentina "raising its flag" over the islands in a long commentary Friday and treated this as a legitimate step in the face of Britain's longstanding refusal to "decolonize" the Falklands.



of the Falklands, as he watched Royal y after the Argentine invasion.

U.N. Offers Peace 'Ideas' to Pym, Argentina

By Michael J. Berlin
Special to The Washington Post

UNITED NATIONS, May 3—U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar has presented Britain and Argentina with "concrete ideas" for a settlement of the Falkland Islands crisis involving a U.N. civilian administration of the disputed islands, diplomatic sources said today.

U.N. spokesman Francois Giulliani, who shied away from the word "mediation" in commenting on the U.N. role, said Perez de Cuellar was presenting his compromise ideas to members of the Security Council in a series of meetings this afternoon. The ideas were options rather than a single, specific U.N. peace plan.

Under the suggested U.N. administration, diplomats here said, an administrator, in charge of a dozen or so officials and some civilian police men, would "deputize" British and Argentine nationals to serve on the U.N. payroll as part of the team.

The U.N. flag would fly over the islands temporarily, after a phased withdrawal by whatever British or Argentine troops and warships were in the area. A U.N. peace-keeping force could be sent to supervise the withdrawals if necessary.

Negotiations then would proceed under a special representative of the secretary general in much the same way the United Nations presides over the intercommunal talks on Cyprus, the diplomats added.

British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym, who was presented with the U.N. options by Perez de Cuellar yesterday, returned to London today after telling reporters, "I don't ex-



Britain's Francis Pym talks with U.N. Security Council President Ling Qiang of China.

clude a U.N. role." He added, however, that "the time is not ripe for the U.N. to take a role" in mediating the dispute.

Pym, who met with Security Council President Ling Qiang of China this morning, also played down a Peruvian peace plan, which, he said, American officials had mentioned in passing on Saturday, but which Argentina had rejected.

"It is up to the Argentines to make the first diplomatic move," he insisted. "They've got to change their minds. They started this action and they've got to go."

by the mine dispute that ultimately foiled the American mediation effort of Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.

Argentina has welcomed a U.N. mediating role, but continues to insist that any deal must include assurances that the final outcome of negotiations will be Argentine sovereignty over the islands.

The British reject this Argentine demand, want a commitment from Buenos Aires to withdrawal before their own commitment to negotiate the crisis, and insist that the talks "take into account the views of the islanders."

Diplomats said the idea of a formal U.N. trusteeship over the islands was ruled out for various reasons.

Perez de Cuellar has resisted intense pressure to be more openly active—and, in view of the American mediating experience, has won some retrospective praise from diplomats for his timing.

His first move, several weeks ago, was to form a staff task force that drew up a list of every mediation or peace-keeping operation ever undertaken by the world body.

The team is headed by Statecouncillor Ahmed, a Pakistani who was the chief staff man for Waldheim's efforts during the Iranian hostage crisis. The group also includes two highly regarded Americans, George Sherry who helps run the U.N. peace-keeping forces, and James Sutterlin, a former Foreign Service officer who has long drafted political policy papers for the secretary general.

With the plan, Perez de Cuellar, a 62-year-old Peruvian diplomat who took over as secretary general only four months ago, is facing his first real test as a mediator.

He has moved more slowly and quietly than was the practice of his predecessor, Kurt Waldheim, insisting that both sides request his help, and seeking endorsement of his involvement by the Security Council.

His proposals would require the endorsement of the Security Council, but that would present no difficulty once Britain and Argentina agree.

The U.N. offer has been stymied

Weather

Today—Sunny, high 72-76, fair tonight, low 44-54. The chance of rain is near zero through tonight. Winds light and variable. Wednesday — Mostly sunny, high 75-79. Yesterday — Noon AQT: 50; temp. range: 75-82. Details on Page B2.

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105th Year No. 150

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TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1982

River in Area Approximately 75 Miles
From District of Columbia (See Box on A2)

25¢

Argentine Warship Sinks; 900 Missing

By Jackson Diehl
Washington Post Foreign Service

BUENOS AIRES, May 3—The Argentine government announced tonight that the cruiser General Belgrano, the second largest vessel in the country's Navy, had sunk in the South Atlantic after being torpedoed by a British submarine last night. More than 900 crewmen were reported missing.

It was the greatest military loss suffered by Argentina in a week of military confrontations with Britain over possession of the Falkland Islands.

The Foreign Ministry announced the cruiser carried a crew of 1,042, and the military command said that 123 survivors had

been rescued. An Argentine plane had spotted life rafts in the area, and vessels were rushing to the scene to attempt to pick up additional survivors.

"At 5 p.m. (4 p.m. EDT) May 2, the Argentine Navy cruiser General Belgrano was attacked and sunk," a Foreign Ministry communique said.

Military officials made no comment on claims by Britain that its helicopters sank one Argentine patrol boat and damaged another early this morning, hours after the attack on the cruiser.

The Belgrano, according to Argentine officials, was attacked off the tip of Tierra del Fuego, south of the Falklands and just out-

side the 200-mile war zone Britain has proclaimed around the islands.

The 13,645-ton, 600-foot-long vessel was formerly a U.S. warship, the USS Phoenix. It was built in 1938 and survived the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. The United States sold it to Argentina in 1961. It had 15 six-inch guns and two launchers for surface-to-air missiles but was not considered a key element in the military balance because of its age.

[The attacking nuclear-powered submarine was identified by the Press Association, Britain's domestic news agency, as the HMS Conqueror. The Associated Press reported.

[The British Defense Ministry had said

shortly after midnight on Monday that the Belgrano suffered "severe damage" after being hit by two torpedoes. Ministry spokesman Ian McDonald acknowledged that the Argentine warship was outside the 200-mile zone but he said it "presented a significant threat to our ships in the area of the Falkland Islands," Washington Post correspondent Jay Ross reported from London.

[McDonald noted, however, that in addition to the 200-mile zone, Britain has proclaimed a "bubble" zone around vessels of the task force, including submarines, and has warned that any Argentine warships in the vicinity of the ships "would encounter appropriate response."

[Britain said its helicopters attacked the two Argentine patrol boats north of East Falkland island, 90 miles within the 200-mile zone, after the boats fired on a British Sea King reconnaissance helicopter. Lynx helicopters from task force vessels then attacked the boats with missiles, McDonald said, sinking one and damaging the other with no loss to the British.

[Britain also requisitioned the Queen Elizabeth 2 luxury liner to carry an infantry brigade of about 3,000 men to the South Atlantic.

See ARGENTINA, A15, Col. 1

U.S. specialists feel Britain will probably land forces soon in Falklands. Page A15

Torpedoed Argentine Ship Sinks; 900 Missing

ARGENTINA, From A1
lic, to raise to about 8,000 the number of British combat troops committed to the recovery of the Falklands.

Despite indications of continued naval losses in the South Atlantic, Argentina's military government continued to maintain today that it holds the strategic advantage over Britain's task force. Support for the military junta's determination to continue fighting for the Falkland Islands showed no signs of slackening.

While reiterating their intent to continue resisting British attacks, Argentine officials gave no indication today that this country would try to take the initiative with an air or naval attack on British forces.

Military officials stressed their interpretation that Britain was rudely surprised in three attempts to land troops on the Falkland Islands Saturday. Argentine forces, dug into the territory have demonstrated to the British that they could not capture the islands without a costly battle, the officials said.

Meanwhile, there was an indication of new Argentine diplomatic movement as President Leopoldo Galtieri dispatched two of his top aides to meet with Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry.

Argentine said early today that it had rejected a new U.S. plan transmitted through Belaunde's government for a solution to the confrontation with Britain, which began April 2 when Argentina seized the British-held islands after a long dispute and unsuccessful negotiations over their possession.

The plan, Argentina said, was substantially similar to a previous U.S. formula, presented by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. when Argentine Foreign Minister Nicor Costa Mendez was in Washington last week. Argentina's rejection of that plan led to a snafu by the United States to offer support for Britain in the crisis and the announcement of sanctions against Argentina.

No official explanation was offered today for the trip to Lima by Gen. Hector Iglesias, general secretary of the presidency, and Rear Adm. Benito Moya, the chief of the presidential military office.

Officials indicated, however, that

the two carried a detailed response to the plan transmitted to Argentina by Peru on Saturday, and they said counterproposals by Argentina were possible.

Argentine military officials have given no indication in the past several days that they intend to change what has been a strategy of resisting British attacks while holding to an entrenched defensive position on the occupied islands.

Argentine officials, including Galtieri, have carefully stressed in recent days that Argentina will respond to British attacks without suggesting that Argentine forces would seek out the British.

Argentine analysts familiar with the military situation say the ruling junta will likely continue the strategy for a variety of reasons.

Even before the loss of its second largest warship and one of six four submarines, Argentina's Navy clearly was no match for the British fleet, analysts here say. The Belgrano was not far from Argentine territory on Tierra del Fuego when it was attacked and analysts here say the Argentine fleet is likely to remain near the coast to guard crucial naval and air bases in southern ports. Argentina's largest warship is the aircraft carrier 25th of May.

Only the Argentine Air Force might be capable of launching a successful attack on the British fleet. In the past, military analysts here have suggested that an air attack by Argentina's more than 100 high performance fighter bombers might try to sink or severely damage one of Britain's two aircraft carriers and thus gravely hurt British chances of maintaining a blockade around the islands.

But an Argentine air attack would be difficult because the main British fleet, believed to be at least 100 miles east of the Falklands, is almost 500 miles from Argentina's nearest coastal air bases at Rio Gallegos and Rio Grande, analysts said.

Argentine A-1 Skyhawks, Mirages and Camerons heavily loaded with bombs would not have much fuel for air battles with Britain's carrier-based fighters at such a distance. Analysts here believe Argentina has stationed few or none of its sophisticated jets on the Falklands themselves because of concern they would



By Dave Cook. —The Washington Post

be destroyed on the ground by British bombing or shelling.

Galtieri and the two other members of the military junta do not appear to face strong political pressure for quick military action.

As long as Argentine forces do not suffer a decisive military setback or yield control of the islands to Britain, the junta's position remains relatively safe, political observers here say.

"Our dead and wounded come back heroes," said one Argentine observer.

But political analysts cautioned tonight that if the sinking of the cruiser results in heavy casualties, it could mean a setback that disrupts the junta's control.

Galtieri told Argentines in a televised address Saturday to expect "a high cost" in materiel and lives in the fight for the Falklands. That conclusion has not been questioned by political and labor leaders here, many of whom have continued to call for a strong Argentine stand.

The leader of the Radical Party, Carlos Contin told Interior Minister Alfredo Sant Juan yesterday his party offered "complete solidarity" for the military's operations against the British. He added that the party was willing to "lend its unlimited and unconditional support in the form the government considers necessary to consolidate Argentina's control of the islands, according to an Interior Ministry statement.

The Peronist Party, believed to be the most powerful civilian force in Argentina, also called after the weekend's fighting for the "creation of a monolithic national unity, which will be, undoubtedly, a triumphal procession against outrage and irresponsible aggression."

Both Contin and the Peronists said they continue to hope for a successful diplomatic solution to the crisis, and one alternative peace plan has been offered by a leading civilian politician here. However, government officials today expressed few hopes for a quick diplomatic breakthrough or a successful mediation by Peru.

The government appeared to be pursuing few other diplomatic options outside of the trip by Galtieri's aides to Lima. Officials said they remained open to action by the United Nations or the Organization of American States but they said Argentina was not considering changing its negotiating stance of insisting on guarantees of sovereignty over the Falklands and the associated, outlying South Georgia and South Sandwich Islands.

The last plan offered to Argentina by the United States proposed a withdrawal of the Argentine troops that have occupied the Falklands since April 2 along with a recall of the British naval forces. The plan called for a temporary tripartite government for the islands including

Argentina, British, and U.S. representatives and long-term negotiations over the islands' future, according to government statements here.

Argentina has called this and similar formulas unacceptable because they do not guarantee Argentine sovereignty over the Falklands within a fixed period of time.

One Foreign Ministry source said today that while Argentina was expecting action in the United Nations, it was unlikely to pursue new initiatives by countries that are signatories to the Inter-American Treaty of Reciprocal Defense, known as the Rio Treaty.

"We got the political support that we wanted already," this official said. "Anything else—such as sanctions—would be impossible to enforce with the United States against us."

Argentina won support from treaty members in a resolution passed last week recognizing Argentina's claim over the Falklands and officials have pointed out that the special treaty consultative session tomorrow upon for further action.

Washington Post correspondent Jay Ross reported from London.

The sinking of the General Belgrano outside the 200-mile British blockade zone particularly if accompanied by heavy loss of life, could become an issue in this country where "rules of engagement" take on great importance.

Although Britain has proclaimed a "double" around the task force and warned Argentine vessels against intruding, it could be argued that since the Belgrano was attacked by a submarine that was underwater, the Argentine skipper did not know he was near the task force.

Reporters pressed British officials on the issue. Defense Ministry spokesman McDonald turned aside a question whether this meant that British ships would be within their rights to attack Argentine vessels outside the zone and close to the mainland. He would only say the "double" is not static.

Defense Minister John Nott was asked at a press conference whether the attack on the Belgrano was consistent with what he had earlier called Britain's policy of using the minimum force necessary to gain an Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands.

Nott and McDonald simply repeated that the Belgrano "presented a threat" to the task force.

An aide to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said she was informed about the torpedoing of the cruiser at about 1 a.m. London time and her consent was not sought in advance.

The attack on the Argentine patrol boats north of the Falklands were the British Navy's first combat use of its Skuas missiles.

A British correspondent on the task force interviewed one of the helicopter pilots, who said that after the first patrol boat, believed to be a converted tug, was sunk a helicopter was sent to look for survivors but was fired on by the second patrol boat, believed to be a corvette with four-inch guns. The British helicopter then fired on the ship, which caught fire.

The helicopter returned safely, the spokesman said, and British aircraft later dropped life rafts near the damaged vessel. There was no information on survivors from either ship, which may have carried as many as 28 crewmen each.

The Thatcher aide said that "for the moment at least" any further action in the area would depend on "whether the Argentines want to put themselves in a menacing position," an implication that Britain was no major offensive action. He refused, however, to call it a pause in the action and said there was no link to the diplomatic efforts of Foreign Secretary Francis Pym.

Pym returned from the United States tonight where he saw Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. and U.N. Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar. He is to brief Thatcher and the Cabinet tomorrow morning.

Thatcher will also decide tomorrow whether to meet with two of the three opposition leaders. Liberal Party leader David Steel and David Owen, foreign policy spokesman for the new Social Democratic Party, are seeking a meeting with her on the Falklands crisis.

Thatcher first offered to hold the meeting but it has now been thrown in doubt because of the refusal of the main opposition leader, Labor's Michael Foot, to attend.

CANADA | PETER WARD

Architect choice protested

OTTAWA — A political storm has erupted in Canada over design of the new Canadian embassy in Washington because the federal Cabinet short-circuited a design competition for the embassy to give the contract to a personal friend of Prime Minister Pierre Trudeau.

Vancouver architect Arthur Erickson was one of 11 semifinalist architects out of 318 seeking the contract, but he was not one of the four chosen as finalists. Canada's Royal Architectural Institute has written to both Trudeau and External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan protesting the choice of Erickson, long-time friend of Trudeau.

"It was our judgement," said selection committee chairman Ed Ritchie, retired senior diplomat, "that he could do the job, but was unlikely to do as good a job as the four finalists."

The winner is guaranteed wide press coverage in the US and considerable international prestige.

Trudeau told Parliament that he felt the task of designing the new embassy in Washington should be assigned by Canada's elected representatives, and that's why the Cabinet chose Erickson.

Soviets plan car plant

Lada Canada, which is selling an increasing number of Soviet-built Lada cars, claims the Soviets are interested in building a Lada assembly plant in Canada either in Nova Scotia or southern Ontario.

The plant would cost approximately \$5 million and have a break-even point of 5000 cars annually. There were 14,200 Ladas sold in Canada last year.

N-fuel to go to Argentina

Canada will go ahead with the June delivery of \$4.2 million in nuclear fuel bundles to Argentina, despite the Falkland Islands situation and protests from the combined opposition parties in Parliament.

Conservative leader Joe Clark charged that Canada had opted for tough talk but "business as usual" in dealing with Argentina. External Affairs Minister Mark MacGuigan said that if fuel delivery for the Canadian reactor was not made, the military rulers of Argentina would

not be bound by their agreement to use the Canadian reactor for only peaceful purposes.

Britain Enlists QE2 As Troop Transporter

Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, May 3—As naval warfare around the contested Falkland Islands heated up, the British government today threw into havoc the vacation plans of thousands of tourists by announcing the requisitioning of the luxury liner Queen Elizabeth 2 to carry an infantry brigade of about 3,000 troops to the South Atlantic.

The announcement brought back memories of World War II, when the vessel's regal predecessors, the Queen Elizabeth and the Queen Mary, transported tens of thousands of GIs to Britain. The new brigade is made up of two battalions of Welsh and Scots guards, who will forgo their traditional place in the Trooping the Color ceremony for the queen's birthday celebration in June, and a battalion of Gurkha rifles, of Nepalese descent.

Defense Ministry spokesman Ian MacDonald said the ministry "greatly regrets the inconvenience

to intending passengers, but the QE's speed, size and facilities make her uniquely suited to carry substantial numbers of troops who must be kept fit and ready for operations, should they be required."

At its top speed of 28 knots, it is estimated that the Queen Elizabeth 2 could reach the Falklands in 10 days.

In addition, two ferries and a container ship are being requisitioned to transport helicopters needed for air support for the brigade. That brings to more than 70 the number of ships, both military and civilian, known to be in the task force strung out over 8,000 miles of the Atlantic Ocean.

The Queen Elizabeth 2 was returning to its home port of Southampton tonight after a crossing from New York. It had been scheduled to take about 1,700 passengers on a 13-day Mediterranean cruise Tuesday.

The \$75 million liner, which carries a crew of 1,000, first went into operation in 1969, when several luxury ships were still crossing the Atlantic, including the France and the United States, now long since retired from the transatlantic business. It has four swimming pools, four restaurants, two nightclubs, seven bars, a casino, a theater and numerous other facilities.

The liner's sailing date for the South Atlantic has been set yet because it must be fitted with a helicopter pad. It is expected that the troops will carry out training maneuvers while en route, including firing weapons from the deck.

Personnel from Cunard, the ship's owners, spent the day trying to make alternate arrangements for passengers. Some prospective passengers were going through the experience for the second time in a month, since they had been reassigned to the QE2 after the cruise ship Canberra was requisitioned earlier.

WP 4/5/82

SUNDAY, MAY 2, 1982

British bomb, shell Falklands; Argentine planes attack fleet

First victim of US 'tilt'

By John M. Goshko
Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The first casualty of President Ronald Reagan's decision to side openly with Britain in the Falkland Islands dispute is his hope of enlisting Argentina as a key ally in the US campaign to build an inter-American front against communist penetration of the Western Hemisphere.

As one of Latin America's major military powers, Argentina has figured prominently in the planning of US policy makers who viewed it as playing a potent leadership role in strategic ventures ranging from naval vigilance over the South Atlantic to the support and training of anticommunist forces throughout Central America.

In addition to the almost certain loss of Argentine cooperation in this high priority effort, Reagan's "tilt" is also likely to affect US relations with the rest of Latin America by causing major ripples in the Central America-Caribbean region that is the principal testing ground of Washington's drive against leftist guerrilla movements.

In its most immediate and obvious form, the fallout will probably involve a rush by Latin American governments to express their solidarity with Argentina and either to denounce the United States or adopt an attitude of coolness toward any initiatives that bear a made-in-Washington stamp.

But as Argentina learned in its dismay during a meeting of the Organization of American States in

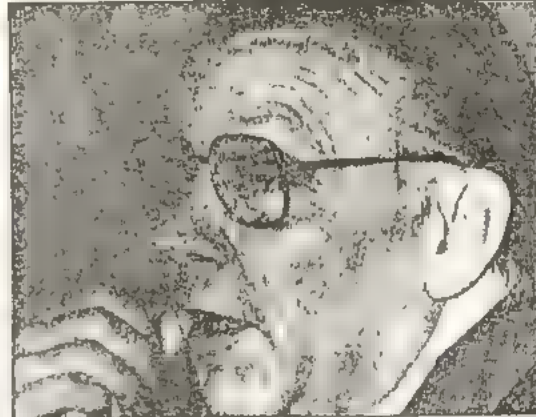
POLICY, Page 24



Argentine Foreign Minister Nicasio Costa Méndez plans meetings with OAS and UN to denounce attack. (UPI PHOTO)



This Vulcan bomber was the type used by Britain in its attack on Port Stanley air field yesterday. (AP PHOTO)



Foreign Secretary Francis Pym returned to Washington and will meet today with Secretary of State Alexander Haig. (Page 24, AP PHOTO)

Port Stanley Airport (small map at right) was the target of carrier-based British aircraft yesterday. (GLOBE MAP BY GORDON TANNER)



Port Stanley airport is hit

From Wire Services

LONDON — Air and sea fighting between British and Argentine forces erupted in and around the Falkland Islands yesterday in a sharp escalation of the South Atlantic crisis.

There were three separate areas of fighting. Britain said its warplanes bombarded two air bases in the Falklands at dawn, inflicting heavy damage, and that all its planes returned safely.

Fighters scrambled off HMS Hermes to engage Argentine jets in a dogfight minutes later.

Reporters aboard the Hermes, the British flagship, said the fleet was pounding the Falklands coast last night.

There were conflicting reports of casualties. Britain said that it downed two Argentine aircraft and that its air force bombed military targets on the islands seized by Argentina exactly one month ago.

The Argentine military junta said at least two and possibly four British Harrier jets were destroyed and three destroyers damaged as its forces struck back. "We shall reply in war with war," a presidential spokesman said in Buenos Aires.

The confrontation moved into its violent new phase after Britain struck by air against the Falklands' main airport at the capital of Port Stanley. A Vulcan long-range bomber and then carrier-based Harriers blasted big craters in the runway and hit parked aircraft, the British Defense Ministry said.

The high-altitude Vulcan bomber flew 3500 miles from Ascension Island to its target. The vertical takeoff Harrier jet fighters were based on carriers stationed 100 to 200 miles from the islands.

The British Defense Ministry said the planes attacked airstrips at Port Stanley and Port Darwin. Later, warships were reported by journalists aboard the British naval task force to have shelled the Port Stanley airfield. Argentina's joint chiefs of staff said British helicopters had struck an airfield at Port Darwin, damaging one Argentine plane on the ground.

FALKLANDS, Page 25

British jets, ships attack islands

■ FALKLANDS

Continued from Page 1

Argentina said it repulsed the raids, which began before dawn, and shot down at least two of the Harriers, killing one pilot and capturing another who parachuted from his stricken jet. It also said its warplanes counterattacked against the British naval task force, inflicting "severe damage" on one unnamed frigate and forcing two others to retreat.

But Britain said all of its planes and personnel had returned safely from the raids. British journalists reported, and the government later said, that an Argentine Mirage jet fighter had been shot down in a dogfight with Harriers over the fleet. The British reported that one of its ships was slightly damaged by the Argentine counterattack but denied any of its task force had retreated.

Argentina said it was still open to a diplomatic solution to the crisis. Argentine Foreign Minister Nicor Costa Mendez was on his way back to Argentina from last-minute negotiations in the United States when the British bombing took place. Upon his arrival at Ezeiza Airport, he said the United Nations should impose sanctions against Britain. He then went to a meeting with President Leopoldo Galtieri.

British Foreign Minister Francis Pym is in the United States for talks with Haig in Washington and with UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar in New York. But British sources in London said the new diplomatic moves were designed mostly to maintain Britain's domestic and international support and offer the Argentine military junta an escape route to settle the crisis.

A British spokesman said that the Vulcan, refueled en route from Ascension by airborne Victor tanker planes, dropped its payload of 21 1000-pound bombs to crater the runways during early morning darkness. The Harriers then rocketed and strafed Argentine warplanes and ground installations at dawn.

The runway at Port Stanley was severely cratered, the British Defense Ministry spokesman said.

"All our aircraft and personnel returned safely. There are no [British] casualties."

Unconfirmed reports said the Vulcan also dropped antipersonnel mines to prevent repairs on the runway. It's apparent main task was to crater the airfield, while the smaller Harriers, using rockets and 30mm cannon fire, were sent in to strafe Argentine planes and missile positions.

A report by Argentina's military junta reported some damage to buildings around the Stanley landing strip, and said a burning fuel drum ignited by a hit from the British planes was quickly extinguished.

Unofficial reports circulating in Buenos Aires said the British destroyed 80 percent of the main airfield, and that one Falklands resident was wounded in the raid in addition to the Argentine troops. There was no confirmation that any of the 1800 British-descended Falklanders was hit. Most were believed hiding on sheep ranches in the interior.

Argentina is thought to have stockpiled much of its supplies near the Stanley airfield, situated on a peninsula about 2½ miles east of the town.

The British Defense Ministry provided no details about damage

Latins assail Britain, US

United Press International

MEXICO CITY — Latin American nations united yesterday to denounce Britain's attack on the Falkland Islands and US support of Britain. Some May Day marches in Latin America turned into anti-British rallies.

Mexican government officials condemned Britain's air attack on the Falklands airfields, warning that full-scale war means irreversible consequences for the world.

In Caracas, groups of demonstrators participating in May Day marches burned British flags and an effigy of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher to protest the bombing of the Falklands by British warplanes.

Argentine groups marched in the parade with placards saying, "The Malvinas are ours," and "Get out, British and Yankee imperialists." The Malvinas is the Spanish term for the Falklands.

In Rio de Janeiro, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry Bernardo Pericas, read a government statement saying, "Brazil can only disagree with the armed attack carried out this morning."

Nicaragua's interior minister Tomas Borges, told the May Day parade in Managua all Nicaraguans support Argentina.

or Argentine casualties caused by the air raids, saying it would take time to put together an accurate picture. Argentina reported that six of its soldiers had been wounded in the raids.

After the air raid, British reporters aboard the Hermes aircraft carrier said the task force moved closer to Port Stanley from the outskirts of Britain's declared 200-mile blockade zone and began shelling the airport. It was then, they said, that the aerial dogfight between Harriers and Argentine jets occurred. As night fell, it appeared that the air raids had ceased, at least for the time being, but heavy naval shelling of Port Stanley continued.

A British navy spokesman said the Argentine air force may have shot down one of its own planes during the dogfights. He did not elaborate.

Although the British spokesman described a two-wave air attack, Argentina's military command said there were four warplane raids: one at 4:40 a.m. that probably was the Vulcan's bombing run, two just before and just

after 8 a.m., about dawn in the South Atlantic winter, which probably were Harrier attacks, and a fourth raid at noon.

There was no immediate indication of when the unverified helicopter attack on Port Darwin took place.

An Argentine military communique made no mention of the condition of the bombed airfields. But yesterday afternoon the military command in Buenos Aires showed foreign journalists a film it said had been taken at the Port Stanley airfield from the window of a C130 cargo plane said to be landing. The film showed an entirely undamaged airstrip, without a piece of gravel out of place. A second film showed the C130 taking off from the field.

"The attack has not affected in the least the defensive capacity organized by the armed forces in the recovered Argentine territory," an Argentine military communique said.

The Argentine state news agency Telam reported that the islands' military governor, Brig. Gen. Mario Menendez, received a communica-

tion from British Rear Adm. John Woodward demanding unconditional surrender. Telam said the governor rejected the demand and told Woodward, "Bring the little prince and come and look for us," a reference to Queen Elizabeth's son, Prince Andrew, a helicopter pilot with the British task force.

Yesterday's air raids were the second British military action against Argentina in the South Atlantic. A week ago, British forces retook South Georgia Island, 800 miles east of the Falklands, damaging an Argentine submarine.

Military analysts in London said the raids likely were ordered to serve three purposes: to ensure that the Argentine occupation forces on the Falklands could not be resupplied by air until the runways were extensively repaired, to prevent the airstrips from being used to launch air attacks on the British naval task force, and to strike a psychological blow against the Argentine troops.

An aide to Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said the attack, which Thatcher reportedly approved at two emergency Cabinet meetings Friday, represented "a further tightening of the screw" in the British government's "calculated

plan of gradual escalation" to force Argentina to withdraw its forces from the Falklands.

Following the end of Haig's unsuccessful mission to mediate a peaceful settlement, the attack began a new phase of the confrontation. "It is a further deliberate demonstration of our determination to recover our territory," the Thatcher aide said.

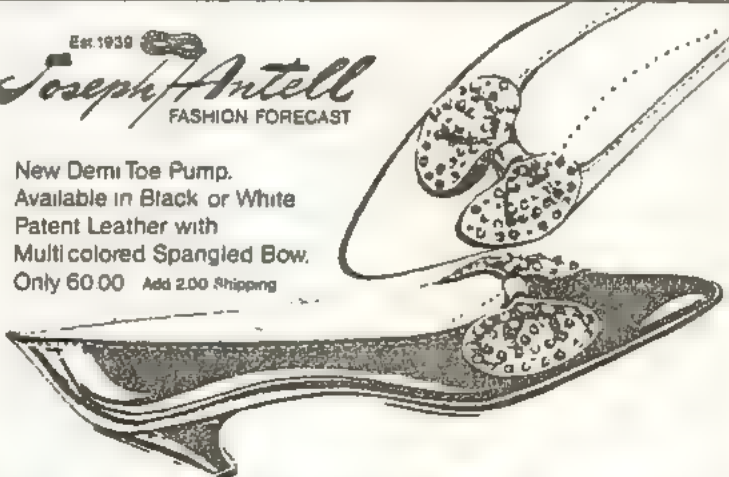
In other developments:

● Cuba said it was ready to support Argentina with all the means that might be necessary in its Falklands dispute with Britain and urged other Latin American nations to do the same.

● The Argentine embassy in Washington said three British destroyers attacked a Falkland Islands settlement with gunfire and were repulsed, with one in flames and calling for help.

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Los Angeles Times

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U.S. Declares It Supports Britain

Offers Material Aid to London, Places Sanctions on Argentina

By OSWALD JOHNSTON, Times Staff Writer

WASHINGTON—Dropping its role as neutral mediator in the Falkland Islands crisis, the United States on Friday offered aid to British forces in the South Atlantic and imposed sanctions against Argentina.

President Reagan, addressing a group of editors at midday, drove home the point of the new American stance by putting the blame squarely on Argentina for invading the islands April 2. "I think the principle that all of us must abide by is armed aggression of that kind must not be allowed to succeed," Reagan said.

In a formal statement at the State Department, Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. held Argentina accountable for rejecting a U.S. peace proposal that he said the British were prepared to consider. Argentina, he charged, is responsible for bringing the crisis to "a new and dangerous phase in which large-scale military action is likely."

'Failure to Compromise'

"In light of Argentina's failure to accept a compromise," Haig said, "we must take concrete steps to underscore that the United States cannot and will not condone the use of unlawful force to resolve disputes."

Haig went on to declare that the President "has directed that the United States will respond positively to a request for material support for British forces," adding: "There will of course be no direct U.S. military involvement."

Haig set forth four areas in which sanctions against Argentina are to take immediate effect:

—A suspension of all military exports to Argentina. Despite an arms sale cutoff imposed in 1978 because of Argentine human rights violations, \$5.9 million in arms and spare parts are still in the supply pipeline to that nation and will be cut off by Friday's action.

—A decision by Reagan not to certify that Argentina's human rights record has improved enough to make it eligible for renewed military sales. Until the Falklands crisis broke out, improved U.S.-Argentine relations had the Administration leaning toward a waiver of the arms sale ban.

—Suspension of new Export-Import Bank credits and guarantees. Argentina already has more than \$1 billion in such credits, and Argentine indebtedness to American private banks is about \$9.5 billion. These existing loans are not affected by Friday's action.

Sanctions Cited Political

—Suspension of the Agriculture Department's Commodity Credit Corp. guarantees to Argentina. The action would cancel an unused authorization covering \$2 million in export sales of lumber and would block any future CCC credit guarantees.

A senior State Department official, stressing a need for the American public and the international community "to recognize where the responsibility lies" at this stage in the Falklands crisis, said these sanctions are "political." That is, they are designed to put added pressure on Argentina to change its negotiating posture and return to

Please see SUPPORT, Page 32

Los Angeles Times

WAR: Who Will Fire First?

Continued from First Page

both Britain and Argentina have forces operating within the restricted areas, making it "a choice of when, not if" they start firing, according to one diplomat.

The Argentines are thought to have 10,000 troops on the Falklands along with a dozen or more French-built Mirage jet fighter planes and several helicopters.

Coastal cities have been on a war footing for much of the past three weeks, complete with nightly blackouts, radio restrictions and, reportedly, massive troop movements.

According to published sources, the Argentine army numbers about 130,000, about 70% of them draftees who serve for 14 months. The navy totals another 36,000 men, about half conscripts; the air force has about 19,500 men, about half conscripts.

Many Troops Committed

There is no information about how much of this force is available for a war with the British, but large numbers of troops traditionally are kept along the border with Chile and near some of the country's largest cities.

Facing the Argentines is a British fleet of about 50 ships, including two anti-submarine warfare aircraft carriers, missile-equipped destroyers, frigates and corvettes and as many as four nuclear-powered submarines.

The British fleet is said to be carrying about 1,500 Royal Marines, but several troop ships are reported here to be on the way with 2,000 to 3,500 or more troops.

Western military experts here say that British objectives and tac-

tics are the keys to the outcome of any war, and nobody in Buenos Aires knows what they are.

But, they speculated, if the British fleet limits itself to blockading the Falklands and does not try to invade the islands or attack the mainland, it will have a fair chance of success.

"If the Argentines decide to challenge a blockade, they will have problems because, in the open sea, they are numerically and technologically weaker," one expert said.

On the other hand, a British invasion of the Falklands would be a most difficult proposition because, in the judgment of the Western experts, the continually bad weather and the numerical superiority of the Argentines on the island would be hard to overcome.

Air Superiority

The Argentines also maintain clear numerical air superiority and their supersonic Mirages are considered more powerful than the slower, newer British Sea Harrier jump-jets, which were designed essentially for anti-submarine warfare.

However, some experts say this advantage could be offset to some degree by the maneuverability of the Harriers. Furthermore, the British have sent additional Harriers to augment the 20 known to be on board the two carriers and they may already be in the area.

The experts also hedge their doubts about Britain's chances for succeeding in an invasion by saying the English troops are among the toughest and best trained in the world with extensive experience in bad weather areas.

The sudden and unexpected British takeover of South Georgia a

week ago testified, they said, to the quality differences in the opposing forces.

With the prospect for an immediate settlement all but foreclosed, the Argentine government Friday began showing more signs of shifting to a wartime footing.

All hard-currency payments for imports were ordered suspended, except with prior government approval.

Also, the joint chiefs of staff, who have taken over supervision of the press here, issued guidelines concerning an earlier, edict requiring all reporters, including foreign journalists, to submit their stories for prior approval.

The 15 points, if enforced, would virtually prohibit any reporting about the conflict if it were judged to diminish or affect national unity, contradict official information, aid in any way—including psychologically—the objectives of the British or undermine the morale of the Argentine people.

Capital Appears Normal

Although military officials said they were not yet enforcing the call for prior approval of journalists' stories, they stressed that any violation of the guidelines could lead to jail for the reporter.

In spite of the seeming closeness of war, Buenos Aires and non-coastal cities remained outwardly normal. However, conversations with several local citizens indicated that many people are frightened by the prospects of a shooting conflict and, while supporting Argentina's takeover of the Falklands in principle, are doubtful about the price to be paid.

Peru, Bolivia and Venezuela Back Argentina

From Associated Press

Venezuela, Bolivia and Peru declared their backing for Argentina on Friday after the United States ended its mediation efforts in the Falkland Islands crisis and gave its support to Britain.

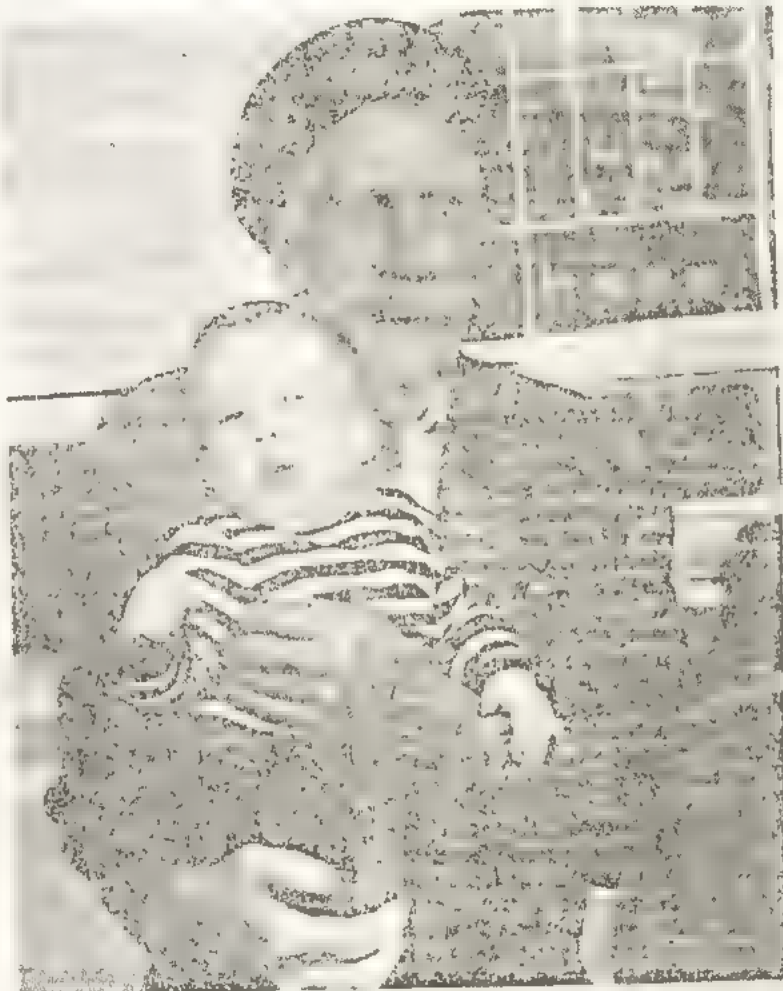
Chile, concerned about its own dispute with Argentina over islands in the Beagle Channel, reaffirmed its neutrality and Brazil said it opposes sanctions imposed by a single country. The U.S. sanctions against Argentina include a cutoff of some economic assistance.

Ecuador accused the United States of violating a resolution adopted by the Organization of American States on Wednesday, which recognized Argentina's claim to the Falklands.

Peru offered Argentina's military-led government "all the aid within our reach." The military regime in Bolivia suggested that its national security council is considering helping Argentina. Venezuela said Washington has "destroyed" its foreign policy toward Latin America.

These were the initial responses:

—Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde Terry, in a cable to Argentine President Leopoldo F. Galtieri, said, "In this hour in which the Argentine nation is the victim of a warlike blockade and of unjustified economic sanctions, I express to your excellency the decision of the government and Peruvian people to provide all the aid within our reach in defense of your legitimate na-



Associated Press

Oldest Falklander—Archie Short, 84, meets his 5-month-old greatgrandson Billy at Heathrow Airport after he arrived in Britain from the Argentine-occupied Falklands with other exiled residents.

tional interests and the cause of (Latin American) unity."

Peru will also continue seeking ways "to contribute to the re-establishment of peace, based on justice," the message added.

—Venezuela, which claims almost half of the former British colony of Guyana in a longstanding bor-

der dispute, again declared its complete support of Argentina.

—Hilarion Cardozo, a senior Venezuelan diplomat, told a news conference in Caracas, "The United States has destroyed its Latin American foreign policy, which it has built up over many years, by helping England in the crisis."

Imports Curbed by Argentina as U.S. Sanctions Spread Panic

By DIAL TORGERSON, Times Staff Writer

BUENOS AIRES—Argentina imposed tight controls on imports Friday as U.S. economic sanctions against this country sent waves of panic through an already troubled Argentine economy.

The country is slipping toward a war-time economy, ruining the earlier hopes of the Ministry of Economy that it could put an end to one of the world's worst cases of inflation with free-market techniques and austerity in public spending.

The U.S. sanctions were actually mild and implied little direct effect on Argentina's domestic economy. One economist described them as "a slap on the wrist." But newspapers called them an American "boycott," and fears quickly spread.

Argentines rushed to buy durable goods and non-perishable foodstuffs that can be hoarded. Despite a penalty of eight years imprisonment, many broke strict foreign exchange laws to buy black-market dollars.

Imports Controlled

Inflation has climbed at dizzying rates during past times of financial crisis here, and Argentines have learned to put their pesos into goods of lasting value.

"My neighbor didn't need one, but he bought a new car today, anyway," a Buenos Aires businessman said.

To curb spending for consumer goods, the government ordered tough new restrictions on business deals made outside the country, a measure that amounts to virtual control over all imports.

One foreign businessman said that a vast bureaucracy is being mustered to process foreign commercial applications in the Central Bank, which under the new rules must approve any obligation with a foreign firm or payment made abroad.

The new rules and the heavy cost of Argentina's military occupation of the Falkland islands virtually destroyed any chance that Economy Minister Roberto T. Alemann had to curb inflation, end recession and build a new reputation for Argentina in the international financial community.

"His policies are down the drain," said

a foreign economist based here. He said Alemann had won respect in financial centers abroad for policies he initiated after taking office in December. "Now, they need him, as the excellent technician he is, to manage the economy as it goes to war," the economist said.

Alemann is still seeking to reassure Argentina's trading partners that his country will meet its foreign debt obligations. The National Institute of Statistics issued a report Friday that reflected an accomplishment of his past policies: The cost of living rose only 4.4% in April. Last year, the monthly rate was often twice that.

Alemann, who has resisted the trend toward a war economy, has said the move to take the islands had cost only \$20 million more than the regular costs of maintaining the army, navy and air force. Some foreign experts, however, put the Falkland's campaign cost as high as \$1.5 billion.

"The exact cost of the military budget itself is almost impossible to determine," one expert said. "Many of the costs are hidden in different ministries. It would be very difficult to establish costs of the campaign. But we can see there's only one way to pay them off: by running the printing presses a little faster and printing more money. And there comes more inflation."

U.S. Sanctions Less Harsh

The economic sanctions announced by the United States were not as harsh as some had expected. They include:

—Suspension of military exports to Argentina. But the Carter Administration cut Argentina off from such sales for human rights violations four years ago. Resumption of such sales has lately been discussed but none have been agreed to.

—Suspension of new Export-Import bank credits and guarantees. Only new deals would be affected, and Argentina is not likely to be seeking new credits while it restricts foreign trade.

—Suspension of Commodity Credit Corp. guarantees. Argentina has obtained only \$2 million in such guarantees, and has not used all of those.

Support for UK May Hurt US Image With All Latins

United Press International

U.S. support for Britain in the Falklands crisis threatens the isolation of Washington in much of Latin America.

Rightly or wrongly, many Latin Americans feel that Britain would not

NEWS ANALYSIS

have gone to war unless it was assured of U.S. backing

Britain opened hostilities on the Falklands Saturday, a day after Secretary of State Alexander Haig announced U.S. sanctions against Argentina and declared support for the British.

"The United States is responsible. They betrayed us," Argentine teacher Elena Catanazariti said in a widely held sentiment in Buenos Aires. "The English attacked when they felt they had the U.S. support to make them strong."

Reaction to the crisis in much of Latin America has been almost as critical of America as of Britain. The issue found such rivals as Communist Cuba and right-wing leaders in El Salvador in the same boat.

Cuba assailed the "immodest sup-

port from American imperialism" while a Salvadoran deputy, Hugo Carrillo Corleto, accused Washington of breaking the Inter-American treaty on mutual defense. He said, "I personally feel we must align ourselves with Argentina because it's part of the American territory."

The U.S. decision to support Britain, said Argentina's Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez, "will impair Washington's Latin America policy for many years."

The Buenos Aires Herald said the decision had "undone much of the tedious diplomatic work that the United States had been carrying out in recent times in order to establish closer links with its Latin American neighbors."

The issue underscores the old rivalry between Argentina and the United States as competitors for world agricultural markets.

A degree of personal antipathy appears to have been involved in negotiations between U.S. and Argentine leaders. Mr. Haig and senior aides were reported to have come away from Buenos Aires with the impression the junta was "a bunch of thugs."

Argentina has said it will seek closer ties with the rest of Latin America and the Third World, and turn to potential allies in Europe such as Italy, Spain and West Germany.

More ominously, it hints it will seek support from the Soviet Union if necessary, for all Argentina's anti-Communist ideology.

West German Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher, whose government is unhappy about the resort to force in the South Atlantic, has expressed concern that Moscow will attempt to exploit the hemispheric differences.

"One must realize that the Soviet Union considers Latin America as an area in which it has a considerable interest, not only in Central America, but in all Latin America, and it is obvious it is trying to gain an advantage for itself from the conflict between Argentina and Great Britain," he said.

Argentina's aggressive chauvinism has sometimes made it unpopular in the rest of Latin America, but it has received widespread support for its sovereignty claim from everyone except Chile and Colombia.

If the war drags on, that moral backing could turn to material support in a widening campaign against the British and their "Yanqui" allies.

EC Hasn't Changed Support for Britain In Falklands Crisis

United Press International

BRUSSELS — There has been no change so far in the full support the European Community gave Britain in its dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands, Belgian Foreign Minister Leo Tindemans has said.

"We are not aware of any tendency to cancel the measures the 10 Community nations have taken," Mr. Tindemans, current chairman of the community's Foreign Ministers Council, said Monday in answer to questions.

"We have displayed our solidarity with Britain right from the start and there has been no change in that so far," he said.

The Community last month embargoed all arms sales to Argentina and all imports from Argentina until May 17. It left the possibility open to modify or suspend the decision before that date in view of new developments.

Foreign ministers are scheduled to hold an informal meeting to examine political matters over the weekend.

Argentina: US Sanctions Economically Innocuous G

Journal of Commerce Special

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's economy minister, Roberto Alemann, has dismissed the U.S. decision to join the economic blockade against his country as "economically innocuous." However, he has confirmed that the government is preparing emergency plans which will be put into force if and when the conflict with Britain requires.

Officials calculate that between them, the U.S. and Canada account for some 9 percent of Argentine exports. However, Mr. Alemann noted that Argentina had no application in for a credit from the U.S. Export-Import Bank, and did not export basic products in any great quantity to the U.S. Asked whether Argentina would retaliate with economic sanctions of its own, the minister said he did not believe this would be opportune. A senior trade official meanwhile said that Argentina's financial position would not deteriorate further as long as the European position would not deteriorate further as long as the European Economic Community did not tighten its measures further. The EC is Argentina's second largest trading partner, after the Soviet Union, which is the key purchaser of Argentina's major export earner, grain.

Any move against the United States would probably complicate further Argentina's foreign debt position, which is already causing comment among the financial community here of the \$21 billion owed in state sector debt to overseas creditors. Around \$7.3 billion is said to be due this year. At the same time, major commercial banks play an important

part in private sector overseas debt, which is variously estimated at between \$12 billion and \$14 billion. In all, U.S. banks are owed around \$9 billion this year, according to some private estimates. Financial commentators here still regard the country's financial position as "manageable," given the favorable payments trend seen in the first quarter of this year.

However, all the special measures announced since dollar trading was stopped on the foreign exchanges early last month are said to have the common objective of protecting Argentina's official reserves.

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Japan to Impose Economic Bans Against Argentina

Unicom News

TOKYO — Japan will impose economic sanctions against Argentina in response to a request from the U.K., the Foreign Ministry announced.

The spokesman said the two-point package included restrictions on Argentine imports and the suspension of new credits.

Banking sources said negotiations had been under way to arrange syndicated loans to finance electric power, oil development, steel plant and railway projects in Argentina.

The Japanese decision was influenced by the stance taken by Western Europe and the United States, Foreign Ministry sources said.

Argentina Says Cruiser Hit by British Sank in Icy Waters; 500 Are Feared Lost

By WALTER S. MUNSBERG
And FREDERICK KEMPE

Staff Reporters of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

The Argentine government confirmed last night that an Argentine cruiser carrying 1,042 crew members sank after being torpedoed by a British submarine.

The foreign ministry said that 123 survivors had been found and that the search was continuing in the icy waters 140 miles south-east of Tierra del Fuego. There were reports that about 500 sailors had perished.

An Argentine government communique called the attack "evil aggression." It said the cruiser General Belgrano was torpedoed 36 miles outside the 200-mile blockade zone declared by Britain around the Falklands.

Britain has acknowledged that the ship was torpedoed outside the British blockade zone. But it said the attack was justified because the Belgrano presented "a considerable threat" to the Royal Navy armada.

Earlier, British government spokesman said Britain couldn't confirm the sinking of the vessel, which was Argentina's only cruiser and was ranked as its second largest ship. It previously described the vessel as "severely damaged."

However, Jeane Kirkpatrick, U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said she had been informed that Argentina fears some 500 men perished when the cruiser sank.

In Buenos Aires, an official government communique gave coordinates for the disabled ship's location that indicated it was southwest of the Falkland Islands and slightly within the 200-mile exclusion zone Britain has imposed around the islands. Unofficial Argentine naval sources, who were quoted by the local media, charged that the U.S. used a spy satellite to help target the ship for the British.

Britain claimed its helicopters also sank one Argentine patrol boat and damaged another early Monday north of the Falklands and inside the zone.

The sinking of the Belgrano could profoundly change the month-long war between Britain and Argentina over possession of the Falkland Islands. The apparent major loss of life would seem to contradict Britain's strategy of staging limited military actions designed to pressure Argentina into resuming negotiations without a major loss of life on either side.

It's possible that such a major reversal could induce the Argentine military junta to turn back to the bargaining table. But a large-scale loss of life could also inflame popular opinion in Argentina, making it impossible to stop the war anytime soon.

The junta is believed to be in a weak position internally, and U.S. officials have speculated it could be ousted in a coup if the war went badly for Argentina. According to this reasoning, the sinking of the Belgrano could have a severe effect on the future of the junta itself.

Attempts by the U.S. to revive talks to settle the Falklands dispute have run into difficulty. Peru cooperated with the U.S. in proposing a new peace proposal to Argentina over the weekend, but that offer was rejected by the military junta. Leaders in Buenos Aires complained that the new proposal was merely a reformulation of an earlier U.S. plan.

Secretary of State Alexander Haig spoke to Peruvian President Fernando Belaunde about the proposal early Monday morning, but U.S. officials said there hadn't been any further talks. State Department spokesman Dean Fischer acknowledged that Argentine reactions to the Peruvian peace feelers "haven't been encouraging."

Peru Continues Effort

Nevertheless, Peru appears intent on continuing its role in efforts to negotiate a solution. Argentina yesterday dispatched two high officials to Peru for talks, U.S. aides said.

Peru also seems to have stepped in to help the Reagan administration transmit ideas to Argentina, which is seething at the U.S. for openly siding with Britain in the conflict. But Mr. Fischer insisted that the State Department continues to talk directly with Argentine leaders, although he wouldn't elaborate.

Elsewhere on the diplomatic front, British Foreign Minister Francis Pym, returning to London from talks with U.S. and United Nations officials, is said to carry some new ideas but no specific peace proposals. Official British sources say they haven't heard of any new diplomatic initiatives.

Following the assaults, British officials emphasized yesterday that they haven't any immediate plans for a full-scale military assault. Instead, the British plan to concentrate on keeping Argentine ships and planes out of Britain's 200-mile exclusion zone.

London believes it has time on its side against Buenos Aires, since Argentina's troops on the islands are cut off from home

by both sea and air. "Now it is their move," one British official said.

The British are preparing for an extended engagement and defense of the exclusion zone. The Defense Ministry announced that it is taking over the Queen Elizabeth 2 to ferry the 3,000 troops of the No. 5 infantry brigade to the South Atlantic. The troops probably would act as a garrison force to hold the islands if they were invaded by the British task force.

The brigade participated in a grueling four-day exercise at Sennybridge, Wales, last week, where the terrain is similar to that of the rugged Falklands.

Additional Transport Ships

The Defense Ministry also announced the requisitioning of two cargo ferries and a container ship to transport helicopter support for the brigade. The government already has taken over two major cruise liners, the Canberra and the Uganda, as troop and hospital ships for the fleet.

Despite all the preparations and the latest military action, British officials insist they are highly reluctant to take any further offensive military action until it is obvious there aren't any alternatives.

Since the first weekend bombings of the island and reported gunning down of two Argentine planes, international support for Britain has cooled somewhat, even in Western Europe. It appears that some member nations of the Common Market would be against an invasion.

In West Germany, a government communique urged that efforts be made to reach a peaceful solution to the conflict. Contrary to official statements, the West German magazine Der Spiegel claimed—and the Bonn government hasn't yet denied—that Chancellor Helmut Schmidt considers the Falklands operation as "a trouble-shooting mission with 19th century methods."

However, the president of the Common Market's council of foreign ministers, Leo Tindemans, who is Belgium's foreign minister, told a news conference that there hasn't been any pressure by members to change their policy now that fighting has erupted. The ministers on April 10 banned Argentine imports and called for immediate Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands. The expiration date for the sanctions is May 17, when ministers are to decide on renewal.

Some British Troops May Go to Falklands In Style, on the QE2

* * *
Tourism's Jewel Is Pressed Into
Service, Minus China and
Crystal; Shriners Lose Out

By JANE MAYER

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

NEW YORK—When Britannia rules the waves, she apparently makes no exception for luxury liners.

Yesterday, amid transatlantic confusion, the British government requisitioned the Queen Elizabeth 2, telling the Cunard Steam-Ship Co. it had three days to outfit the ship to carry British troops to the Falkland Islands.

"It came as something of a surprise to most of us," said Gerard Kinally, senior vice president of the subsidiary of Trafalgar House Ltd. He said that, because yesterday was a bank holiday in Britain, most of the officers learned of the news from radio reports, and that information remained "sketchy at best."

But one thing that already seemed clear was, as one spokesman for the company said glumly: "It's bad for business." There wasn't any indication how long the ship might have to go into service, although many travel agents as well as the company's officers held out the hope that negotiations with Argentina would settle the conflict before the Queen set sail.

But already yesterday the company announced that it was canceling a 12-day cruise to the Mediterranean, meant to leave from Southampton today, for a revenue loss of \$3.5 million. Some 1,600 passengers, including a group of 400 Shriners traveling from California, had to be booked on other cruises, placed in hotels or given refunds.

Mr. Kinally said that the British government probably would compensate the company for most of its operating costs, but that the question of "coincidental losses remains in a gray area."

Instead of setting out to the Mediterranean, the 963-foot-long ship will spend the next few days in the hands of Royal Navy

dockyard workers, who reportedly will make "a small number of modifications."

James Sullivan, vice president for marketing and sales, suggested that the bone china, crystal glassware and 20,000-bottle wine cellar might be replaced with more suitable mess hall equipment, although he speculated that "chateaubriand in the Queen's Grill will be enjoyed by a good number of troops."

A helicopter launching pad will be installed on one of the decks of the 13-story liner, possibly replacing the miniature golf course or one of two outdoor pools. The casino, Mr. Sullivan suggested, "may be turned into a bedroom," and he speculated that staterooms might be divvied up either by lottery or rank.

Ian McDonald, spokesman for the British Defense Ministry, said that tentatively the flagship of the Cunard line would be used to send the 3,000-member British 5th Infantry Brigade to the Falklands—a group that includes paratroopers, Welsh Guards and Gurkhas recently trained in Falkland-like terrain in the hills of Wales.

"We assume the British government will take all precautions to keep civilian ships out of danger," said Mr. Kinally, noting that two other ships requisitioned from another steamship line to carry troops were kept at least 3,000 miles from the Falklands. But Mr. Kinally said that should the QE2 be damaged, it would cost more than \$300 million to replace, although it was built for \$72 million in 1968.

The 140-year-old Cunard has been active in wars before. During World War I, its fleet carried more than one million troops and 10 million tons of coal, and during World War II both the Queen Mary and the Queen Elizabeth I transported troops. But none of the Cunard liners ever has been to the Falklands, said Mr. Sullivan, "at least not intentionally."

Spain's Refusal to Impose Bans On Argentina Held Puzzling

Journal of Commerce Special

JFC 4/5/82
MADRID — Diplomatic observers are wondering what game Madrid is playing by its refusal to join the European boycott against Argentina. Spain was the only country in the council on Europe to abstain from condemning Argentina's invasion.

Madrid's position is also liable to jeopardize relations with NATO and the EC. Spain is scheduled to join NATO this summer, while EC membership is now forecast for 1985.

Most observers believe that Spanish policy in the Falklands is not borne out by economic realities. There is little Spain can do to fill the gap opened by the EC's economic boycott, aside from possibly stepping up purchases of cheap leather for the footwear industry. Prior to the boy-

cott, Italy supplied Argentina with 90 percent of the footwear imported from the Common Market, a position which in the long term could be filled by Spain if the conflict drags on.

On the other hand, the Spanish trade balance with Argentina deteriorated dramatically last year. In 1981 Spain posted a \$9.7 million deficit in trade with Argentina, following a \$70.6 million surplus in the previous year. The deficit largely reflects increased grain imports from Argentina; as a result of the prolonged drought in Spain.

Spain's position, most sources agree, seems to reflect a crisis of political identity, which in the long run could cost this country more in Europe and the United States than it stands to gain in prestige in Latin America.

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12A

Queen Elizabeth 2 To Become Troop Ship

By LISA S. HOWARD
Journal of Commerce Staff

The Cunard Line cruise vessel Queen Elizabeth 2 was requisitioned Monday by the British government for use as a troop carrier in the Falkland Islands conflict.

The move came as a surprise to Cunard, a division of Trafalgar House Inc., of London. All that Cunard officials James R. Sullivan and Gerard R. Kinally could say for sure was that today's trans-Atlantic voyage, scheduled to carry 500 American passengers from Southampton, U.K., has been canceled.

Speaking at a press conference at Cunard's New York office, the officials said they hoped the 67,107-ton vessel, which can carry 1,800 passengers and 1,000 crewmembers, will not be diverted for long.

The Cunard officials said they had hoped that the P&O passenger ship Canberra, recently requisitioned by the British government for use in the Falklands crisis, would have been sufficient. In addition, the Atlantic Conveyor, a 18,146-deadweight-ton container-ship, was requisitioned a few weeks ago.

"We haven't been advised about what will happen to the ship," Mr. Sullivan, senior vice president-marketing and sales, contended. "They may even return it to us in a few days."

He said later that he did not know if the Queen Elizabeth 2 would have armed escorts. "No one will know that for a week," he added.

"Presumably they would have to make some provision for certain types of equipment. Whether this means a refit or if it will be

contained in the holds is not yet known," he said. The ship's holds are capable of carrying 100 cars.

Cunard and the British Ministry of Defense met Monday in London to discuss the details of the diversion and "some direct compensation for the loss incurred," said Mr. Kinally, Cunard's senior vice president-finance. An announcement is expected from the ministry today.

After the press conference, Mr. Sullivan estimated that the May 4 voyage alone would have brought some \$3.5 million to \$4 million in passenger revenues.

Discussions are also under way with Lloyd's of London for any additional insurance coverage that may be required in this emergency.

"We're in touch with Lloyd's to try to work out any specific insurance problems," which may result from the requisitioning of the vessel, Mr. Sullivan said. "Presumably there may be additional policies needed, and the British government will likely put up the money for the premiums."

Passengers scheduled to make the May 4 voyage will receive a full refund or will have the option of taking a Caribbean cruise aboard the Cunard Countess or Cunard Princess out of San Juan, the officials said, or will be offered vacations at Cunard hotels in the Caribbean or the U.K.

"They (the passengers) are taking it exceedingly well and in good humor," Mr. Sullivan said.

This is not the first time a Cunard vessel has been requisitioned in a national emergency. During World War II the Queen Elizabeth 1 and the Queen Mary were both used.

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

The Generals' Dilemma

B RITISH FORCES appear to be taking relentless control of the air over the Falklands and the seas around them. This sharpens the principal question facing Argentina's generals. By seizing the Falkland Islands, they committed a political blunder assuring that they would not receive assistance even from the few countries inclined to offer rhetorical support. They may have committed a military blunder as well. Argentina's forces are being cut up and isolated. How do the generals mean to get their country out of this fix?

They are caught between the military facts, which counsel a diplomatic settlement, and the political facts at home, which indicate that the honor of the military, or at least the tenure of the current leaders, may not survive a settlement. What a pity that the generals failed to contemplate that dilemma before April 2. It is a typical mistake of a dictatorship that has deprived itself of the democratic mechanisms of debate and inquiry.

No outsider can be sure how the generals will resolve their dilemma. Will the losses goad them to stay in battle and refuse accommodation? Or could these losses possibly be portrayed as the price a brave nation paid to defend its honor against overwhelming odds? There is an element of mystique in Argentina's politics and on this may depend the response to Britain's methodical Anglo-Saxon tightening of the screws.

Regrettably, Argentina rejected the mediation being offered by Peru's president, Fernando Belaunde Terry, over the weekend. That put the generals in the foolish position of turning away from a Latin initiative, one made by a statesman who in no way can be characterized as an American puppet. Fortunately, there are signs that some of the leaders in Buenos Aires remain interested in the Belaunde initiative. That would seem to offer Argentina what hope there is for minimizing the damage it did to itself by its heedless aggression.

Boost for Tourism

WASHINGTON doffed all those tired winter greys and burst into dazzling technicolor right on cue yesterday for its 180th birthday celebration at city hall. But the celebrating isn't over yet. Until the end of September, an official committee of dignitaries and people that mayors always name to these groups in an election year will be thumping the tubs for the tourist trade.

City fathers over the four score and 100 years of Washington's life have formed such committees. A year ago, it was Mayor Barry's turn, which prompted some speculation in this space that the

For that drop, according to Carole Shifrin in the Washington Business section, local officials blame terrible weather around the country, pressures of the economy and federal budget cuts. In January 1981, the occupancy rate was helped by an inaugural, the return of Congress nearly three weeks earlier than this year and a smaller supply of hotel rooms. The Jan. 13 Air Florida crash certainly didn't help this year.

In addition to promotions, Washington also needs an all-out improvement of the information it offers visitors.

Tass Says U.S. Aided British 'Aggression'

By Dusko Doder
Washington Post Foreign Service

MOSCOW, May 3—The Soviet news agency Tass said today that the United States, by siding openly with Britain in the South Atlantic dispute, "bolstered the aggressiveness" of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government and led it to "escalate military pressure on Argentina."

Saying the conflict between Britain and Argentina was a part of the Reagan administration's "global imperialist line" for extending "U.S. and NATO influence and presence wherever possible," the Soviets argued that the United States has betrayed Latin American nations by refusing to honor its commitments under the 1947 Rio Treaty.

In two Tass commentaries, Moscow appeared to try to exploit the Falklands crisis to depict the United States as the instigator of the conflict while shedding its own image in Latin America as a superpower bent on fomenting local revolutions.

The unfolding Falklands crisis and Moscow's insistence that it is a matter of decolonization seems to have placed the Soviets on the side of most Latin Americans. Analysts here said the Soviets appear confident that they stand to make long-term political and propaganda gains in the region regardless of the conflict's outcome.

According to diplomatic analysts here, the crisis was a gift to Moscow. It diverted the world's attention away from the simmering Polish crisis and tied up the largest European NATO navy in a war in the South Atlantic against a traditional U.S. ally.

According to this view, very little could happen in the British-Argentine conflict that would go against Soviet interests.

Moscow Seen Seeking Better Latin Image

From Moscow's point of view, the Falklands eventually would come under Argentine sovereignty even if the British manage to regain control over the islands.

Whatever the outcome, the Soviets see a deterioration of U.S. positions in Latin America in the long term. Moreover, a weakened Argentina is expected to become an even more eager seller of grain and meat to the Soviet Union.

There has been speculation among Latin diplomats here that the Argentine junta may seek Soviet assistance in case of a larger conflict and possible defeat by the British.

Such a request is regarded as unlikely, however, and the Soviets at this stage do not seem prepared to go beyond rhetorical and diplomatic support for Buenos Aires.

In one of its commentaries, Tass said the Soviet Union is strongly opposed to colonialism and "is convinced that the restoration of the colonial status of the islands sought by London and those supporting its military venture is inadmissible and that the dispute should be settled in accordance with the well-known U.N. resolutions by peaceful means, at the negotiating table."

Although Soviet commentaries and dispatches denounced "the imperial ambitions" of the Thatcher government, there were no indications

that the Soviet Union was considering the possibility of direct involvement in the conflict.

What the commentaries did, however, was give Moscow an opportunity to score propaganda points in an area traditionally considered Washington's backyard.

Tass said Washington often tried to demonstrate that "the United States was the most loyal friend and dependable ally of Latin American countries and that it was prepared, if need be, to honor the commitments assumed [under the so-called Rio Treaty] and take part in the collective defense of those countries," Tass said.

It noted that Reagan mentioned the 1947 treaty during his recent speech before the Organization of American States when he outlined plans to aid Central American and Caribbean countries.

"But now that there has emerged a situation in which one of the Latin American States—Argentina—is indeed threatened with the British mailed fist, the Washington 'friend' not only has forgotten the Inter-American Assistance Treaty, not only pointedly refused to subscribe to the decision of the consultative conference of the OAS foreign ministers, which called on Britain to put an end to military operations, but openly stated its support for London."

Observers here say the price in lives and material Britain will have to pay to achieve success in the Falklands could rebound against the Thatcher government, which the Soviets would like to see collapse.

Should the conflict escalate into a major war, the Soviets expect United Nations intervention. Moscow expects that most Third World countries would side with Argentina.

British Expected to Land Troops Soon

By Michael Getler
Washington Post Staff Writer

U.S. civilian and military specialists watching the Falkland Islands crisis believe Britain probably will land forces on the islands soon in an effort to drive Argentina toward a negotiated solution more acceptable to London.

These specialists do not feel the British are likely to launch an all-out frontal assault involving thousands of troops against Port Stanley, the island capital and main Argentine military stronghold. Rather, the British probably will put troops numbering in the hundreds ashore elsewhere on the islands and raise the British flag somewhere over the disputed territory.

Although the Royal Navy has several major warships already around the islands, including the aircraft carrier *Hermes* carrying about 1,500 Royal Marines, a further force of amphibious ships with about 3,000 more troops is said to be on its way, though still at least a few days' sailing time away.

Specialists here say some British marines could be put ashore now, using helicopters and Harrier jump jets for protection. But others believe any significant ground action will probably await the arrival of the amphibious ships, which reportedly are now southwest of the Tristan da Cunha group of islands in the mid-South Atlantic.

Several well-placed officials estimated that the British have only a few courses of action open in the next three weeks or so because of increasingly severe winter weather in the area. Indeed, these officials say within two or three weeks both sides could be hurting severely because of the cold and the sizeable costs of the faceoff.

The cutting-off of supplies could also begin to take a toll on the 1,800 islanders, mostly of British stock, which could also become a factor pushing London toward negotiations.

Sources here indicate that Argentina probably has 7,000 or so troops dug-in on the Falklands, a number considerably smaller than the 10,000 to 14,000 troops estimated in some accounts.

Because of the several hundred miles of coast-

Attempt Seen as Bid To Force Negotiation

tually impossible to stop a British landing, certainly on the deserted western side of the islands and even one that came reasonably close to the main Argentine garrison at Stanley.

Last week, the British are understood to have landed a small team of commandos equipped with sensitive electronic listening devices to carry out reconnaissance on the island and intercept communications between the mainland and the Argentine defenders on the Falklands.

Once ashore, it is assumed that the larger landing force would harass the island's defenders, blow up facilities, capture officers, raise the flag and perhaps establish a beachhead for still larger forces to follow.

By using hit-and-run tactics and helicopters, the British could force the Argentine defenders to come out and try to find them, causing a further depletion of supplies for the defenders on the already isolated island.

Such activities would fit into what officials here see as an "overall demoralization" plan meant to increase the psychological pressure on Buenos Aires.

Last weekend, British planes, in a surprise attack, bombed the airfield at Stanley as part of a move to prevent aerial resupply from the mainland. The British naval blockade prevents resupply by sea unless the Argentine Navy seeks to challenge the British fleet.

Although the British have claimed the air attacks "severely damaged" the airfield, other sources say there are indications the destruction was not complete. But the British could strike again.

Although the British, according to U.S. officials, are not making known their plans to Washington, the widespread feeling here that the British

"cannot sit tight," as one official put it, especially with thousands of troops bobbing around in flotilla ships. "They've got to keep on registering victories."

Yet the view is also widespread here that London does not want to undertake any operations that would result in high casualties, either to its forces, the local defenders or island inhabitants.

But the problem with the so-called demoralization plan, as viewed by Latin specialists here, is that the Argentines' frame of mind is such that the more humiliation they endure the more determined they become to try to strike back.

"The Argentines are looking for a victory," one official here said, and the Navy leadership is both the most militant element of the junta running the country and also the service "most looking for trouble."

There are also indications that the United States is not accumulating a great deal of immediate intelligence about what is going on in the region, which is far from the traditional areas that the U.S. keeps watch upon.

The U.S. does have satellites passing over the area, but bad weather is said to hamper those spy-in-the-sky, picture-taking devices. Most of the intelligence is understood to be picked up by monitoring electronic and radio communications of all sides.

American help to the British has consisted of sharing intelligence information, providing communications and fuel for vessels and aircraft using the American-operated airfield on British-owned Ascension Island in the South Atlantic.

Now, U.S. officials say additional American aid could come by using huge C5A jet transports to ferry equipment from Britain to Ascension and providing such things as weapons, radars and other equipment if London asks for it.

The British are said to have set up a conveyor-belt type supply system with perhaps 75 ships that now make up the fleet involved in the operation. Supply ships leave Ascension, resupply the fleet near the Falklands 3,500 miles away, then turn around and head back to Ascension for another round-trip.

REVIEW & OUTLOOK

Ruling the Waves

It's an opportune coincidence that the Senate this week is taking up the administration's Defense Authorization Bill at the same time that the British Navy is engaged in a fight with Argentina. The Falkland Islands episode is a classic example of the need to maintain strong general purposes forces, even in this nuclear-weapons age, and illustrates the danger of letting your conventional military capabilities languish.

There are significant ironies in Britain's attempt to retake those small, sheep-herding islands in the South Atlantic. The British are giving a splendid account of themselves, yet the wonder is that there should be any sort of contest between Britain's Navy and Argentina's. Because of years of retrenchment in defense spending, the United Kingdom finds projecting its power a chancy proposition against even a third-rate aggressor.

The British sent two small aircraft carriers, one of which has already been sold to Australia. These carriers, armed with jump-jets of limited range, cannot adequately protect themselves against land-based aircraft and are carefully staying east of the Falklands and out of range of planes flown from the Argentine mainland. The great mystery of the engagement is why the Argentines didn't extend the runway of the Falklands airport to base fighters there; this obvious step would have vastly multiplied the British difficulties. And when the British wanted to take out the airfield, they had to call on an aging Vulcan bomber, scheduled to be retired in six months. If the Argentines had waited longer, there would have been only one carrier and no Vulcans.

Even more to the point, if you have adequate forces, you often don't have to use them. Back in the 1960s, the British Navy had five large-deck carriers, and found no need to deal with military attacks on far-flung vestiges of empire. Former British Prime Minister James Callaghan said in an ABC interview Sunday that in 1977 Argentina also threatened to take the islands, but was forced to back down, in 1977 the Royal Navy was far stronger than today. Indeed, it can scarcely be mere coincidence that the Argentine invasion followed on the

heels of Mrs. Thatcher's decision to cut the navy, retaining expensive nuclear-missile submarines but reducing the general purpose fleet by half.

On Capitol Hill this week, the Senate will consider whether to follow the British example. In the defense authorization debate, Sen. Gary Hart will offer his well publicized amendment to "streamline" the Navy. This means scuttling the two large-deck carriers the administration proposed, and substituting carriers like the ones the British are sailing off the Falklands.

The real issue in the big-carrier versus small-carrier debate is precisely that illustrated in the Falklands. If you plan ever to operate against land-based aircraft, you need the big carriers. The small carriers aren't in any event small enough to hide from modern target acquisition, and can't survive attacks by Soviet cruise missiles or Backfire bombers.

On the other hand, the Nimitz-class carriers are the Navy's least sinkable ships. These vessels are protected by six concentric rings of defenses, including F-14 fighters, surface-to-air missiles and radar-controlled guns that can put up a "wall of steel" to stop incoming missiles or aircraft. Moreover, the ships are so large and well-armed they can take a hit and continue to operate in battle. In 1969, for instance, an explosion equivalent to six Soviet anti-ship missiles wrecked the flight deck of the Enterprise, but flights were able to resume in a few hours. The larger ships also have greater redundancy in case some catapults, elevators or arresting wires are knocked out.

The Falklands affair is a timely reminder in many ways. A nuclear deterrent does not eliminate the need for strong conventional forces; Britain does not find its Polaris submarines particularly helpful. Conventional forces are needed to deter smaller conflicts, as a strong Royal Navy once deterred invasion of the Falklands. When conflict does erupt, you are likely to have to send carriers to face land-based aircraft. Unless you are lucky enough to have your objective just out of air range or have foes that neglect their runways, you are going to need the real aircraft carriers the administration has proposed.

THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1982

WHITE OAK, MARYLAND

News—

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World-Wide

AN ARGENTINE SHIP SANK with 1,042 aboard, its government confirmed.

Buenos Aires reportedly fears the loss of 500 crewmen aboard the General Belgrano, which was torpedoed by a British sub Sunday. It said that 123 survivors were rescued and that the search continued. London confirmed the ship was hit outside the 200-mile British blockade zone, but said it presented "a considerable threat." It added that helicopters sank an Argentine patrol boat and damaged another.

British officials emphasized that there weren't any immediate plans for an invasion to regain the South Atlantic colony. But the government requisitioned the liner Queen Elizabeth 2 to ferry 3,000 troops to the area.

Argentina rejected a Peruvian peace plan, unofficial Argentine naval sources reportedly said the cruiser had been targeted by a U.S. satellite.

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Could the U.S. Sealift Handle a Crisis?

By DANIEL S. MARUSCHIN

Just as one thought we'd entered the space age, the Falklands crisis has awakened us to the important role naval forces still play in strategic conflicts. Sea power—which includes the vital component of carrier-based aircraft—allows a nation to project its forces and influence to those areas essential to its interests. The USSR has recognized this and has acted accordingly. It has embarked over the last decade on an aggressive program of lining up bases and friendly allies—big and small—along vital sea routes while at the same time modernizing its own naval forces.

In this context, the Falkland Islands conflict underscores the severe problems the U.S. military would confront if faced with a similar situation in the Persian Gulf or some other distant point.

The extended lines of communication for British forces—8,000 nautical miles—have tested the Royal Navy's ability to project men and materiel great distances, for what may be a lengthy period of time in the event of a prolonged blockade of the Falklands.

Though well-trained and well-armed, the Royal Navy is but a shell (or "hull") of its former self. The number of surface vessels in its fleet has shrunk drastically in recent years and in the process, its sealift capability has also been reduced. In organizing the flotilla for action in the Falklands, the British have relied heavily on the merchant marine, bringing into service over two dozen vessels for use as supply ships, minesweepers and for transporting heavy weapons such as tanks and even Harrier jump jets. The luxury liner Canberra was pressed into service in the first few days of the crisis to carry a force of over 2,000 Royal Marines and paratroopers. Yesterday, the giant liner QE2 was requisitioned.

Long Sea Routes

How would the U.S. fare under similar circumstances? Potential trouble spots abound far from our shores. Unlike the Soviet Union, which either borders on, or has established naval facilities in close proximity to possible areas of confrontation, the U.S. must project its forces over long sea routes.

Creating a Rapid Deployment Force, composed of units from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marine Corps to respond quickly to crises abroad is a strategic plus for the U.S. in the eyes of Pentagon mili-

tary planners. But a Rapid Deployment Force, to be truly effective, must have the back-up ability to be resupplied and the knowledge that reinforcements are on the way.

The establishment of U.S. military "facilities" in such places as Somalia, Kenya and Oman are an important step toward establishing an American resupply and refueling presence in the Persian Gulf and Southwest Asian regions. But Somalia and Kenya are a significant distance from potential Middle East theaters of conflict. And potential instability in those countries,

The Falklands conflict underscores the severe problems the U.S. military would confront if faced with a similar situation in distant areas.

along with Third World political sensitivities there, create serious doubts about the long term value of these sites as jumping-off points or resupply stations for U.S. troops in the event of an emergency. The closest we come to a permanent base is on the vulnerable Diego Garcia atoll, 2,500 nautical miles from the Straits of Hormuz—still too far for an effective immediate response to hostilities.

Indeed, every international crisis to which the U.S. would have to respond would require us to move troops, materiel and fuel by sea: the North Atlantic, South Atlantic, southern Africa, the Caribbean, the Pacific and the aforementioned Persian Gulf. The Soviets, recognizing our disadvantage in this regard, are already doing their best to extend their influence to key maritime "choke points".

A series of Cuban-backed revolutions in Central America threatens the Panama Canal and Caribbean area, through which moves shipping vital to our economy. The Soviet naval presence in Cuba is substantial and poses an on-going threat to shipping lanes.

The same advantageous Soviet positioning holds on either side of the Cape route around southern Africa—through Soviet surrogates (and refueling and resupply rights) in Angola in the South Atlantic and in Mozambique in the Indian Ocean. The Cape route, through which passes the bulk of Western Europe's oil and the West's supply of strategic metals and minerals, has been further threatened by Soviet backing for the Southwest Africa Peo-

ple's Organization (SWAPO), which seeks to take power in Namibia, thus giving the USSR a naval window on the South Atlantic.

In Northern Europe, the Soviets have built a mobile, well-armed Baltic Fleet, with an amphibious capability geared to a takeover of the strategic Kiel and Mecklenburg Bays, and the neutralization of NATO allies Denmark and Norway.

Other choke points haven't been ignored by the Soviets. Their naval presence in South Yemen affords access to the Bab el Mandeb Straits at the mouth of the Red

Sea and proximity to the Straits of Hormuz. A Soviet naval base on the Dahlak Islands off Ethiopia puts the USSR a short hop from the Saudi mainland.

This has all been accompanied by a major build-up of Soviet naval power. Traditionally the Russian fleet has been a mechanism for defending the homeland. Today it is capable of projecting power and forces at great distances. Technologically, the Soviet Navy has entered the age of sophisticated warfare; aircraft carriers are joining a fleet that includes dozens of nuclear powered and armed submarines.

There is no logical reason for the USSR to develop a naval force of this size, its allies and lines of communication to most potential theaters of confrontation with the West are overland. No reason other than to position itself to interdict U.S. use of the world's sea lanes and our ability to defend both our allies and our national interests.

Responding to this challenge, the Reagan administration has proposed increasing our fleet from its present strength of 450 vessels to 600. Two new aircraft carriers—bringing the total to 15—hundreds of new fighter planes and other advanced items are being requested in the new budget. Proponents of the budget maintain that as our defense needs have changed in going from a one-and-a-half war strategy to the possibility of firefights in any number of trouble spots, the Navy ought to be prepared for any eventuality.

In that case, and with the Falklands situation in mind, it is imperative that our sealift capability be bolstered. With the

precipitous decline of the merchant marine, the Navy has but a limited number of vessels on which to rely in an emergency for supply and transport assignments. Naval officials estimate that some 90% of our cargo during wartime will go by sea, yet the Maritime Sealift Command (which has 60 ships under its control) can call upon only half as many merchant ships as it did only 15 years ago during the Vietnam war and but a sixth of the number available in the Korean war.

A NATO agreement would free up to 100 European cargo ships for U.S. use during hostilities in Europe. But that arrangement is of no use if trouble breaks out elsewhere.

Many of the ships in the National Defense Reserve Fleet are of World War II vintage and would take two to three months to prepare for deployment. There are 27 newer ships in a category called the Ready Reserve Force that the Navy and the Maritime Administration maintain could be ready in five to 10 days. But these ships are equal in number to those needed by the British in the first two weeks of the Falklands crisis. Problems in the Persian Gulf would surely require additional vessels—quickly.

Prepositioning Ships

One way around this problem is the use of prepositioning ships which carry food, equipment and fuel that can "marry up" with troops from the Rapid Deployment Force. Thirteen ships of the type are already in the Indian Ocean for use by a U.S. Marine brigade and other military units. Other ships of this type are on order by the Navy. In the absence of U.S. bases in strategic areas, the prepositioning ship is a necessity, but is by no means a substitute for a permanent U.S. presence. The return of a strong U.S. merchant marine would add significantly to our abilities but that is for the long term.

In the meantime, the U.S. is playing catch-up and the hour is late. Until our airlift capability drastically improves, we'll depend on the seas to move men and arms. As the Falklands have taught us, we can't be prepared enough. Placing a priority on our sealift capability must be a national imperative.

Mr. Maruschin writes on the Middle East and international affairs from New York City.

Argentina's Nuclear-Weapon Capability Is Estimated to Be Closer Than Thought

By JOHN J. FIALKA
And GERALD F. SINS

Staff Reporters of The Wall Street Journal
WASHINGTON — U.S. intelligence estimates circulating on Capitol Hill and elsewhere here suggest that Argentina may be closer to entering the "club" of nations that have nuclear-weapons capability than had been thought.

Although U.S. analysts reportedly believe that Argentina is still some months or years away from building a bomb, the new assessments, coming in the midst of the Falklands crisis, heighten concern about Argentina's growing tendency to use its political and military powers.

Part of the new concern, according to several government sources, is that there have been large "accounting gaps" in methods used to monitor the nuclear fuel being loaded into and removed from Atucha I, Argentina's commercial nuclear-power reactor near Buenos Aires.

The gaps, discovered in the International Atomic Energy Agency's surveillance system covering the plant, could mean that Argentina has been able to draw substantial amounts of plutonium away from its civilian power program without detection. Intelligence experts reportedly are divided, however, on whether these gaps actually have been used as a pathway for nuclear diversion.

"We're very concerned about Argentina's program," was the way one U.S. specialist on the matter put it. Calling Argentina's approach to nuclear technology "very sophisticated," the specialist added, "we aren't talking about a Third World program in any way shape or form."

"This thing is extremely sensitive right now, that's all I can tell you," said a U.S. official who has attended briefings on the Argentine nuclear program. Both sources asked not to be identified by name.

Argentine officials have repeatedly insisted in recent months that their 27-year-old effort to develop an independent nuclear-power program will result in only peaceful uses of atomic energy although they have managed to avoid most international controls and treaties covering the subject.

A nuclear-power reactor creates plutonium, a nuclear-weapon material, as its uranium fuel changes in the process of fissioning. Atucha I has been in operation since 1974, long enough to produce about 1,000 pounds of plutonium. It takes about 30 pounds of plutonium to make a small nuclear weapon.

However, several sources involved in deliberations over Argentina's nuclear programs have concluded that while Argentina may have access to bomb-grade plutonium, fabricating a usable nuclear weapon, if it decided to do so, still could take some time.

Eduardo Jantus, press attache at the Argentine Embassy here, said he couldn't comment on the possibility of a diversion at Atucha I "because that's a fabrication." Carlos Martinez Vida, a former head of Argentina's Atomic Energy Commission who now works here for the Organization of American States, insisted that it would be "impossible to use (Atucha's fuel) for anything but peaceful uses."

Earlier this year, before the Falklands crisis, Vice Admiral Carlos Castro Madero, current chairman of Argentina's nuclear agency, said that the spent nuclear fuel accumulating at Atucha I and amounts that will be created at two other power reactors being built constitute a plutonium mine that will be separated, recycled into nuclear fuel and sold to foreign countries.

Having what is known as a complete nuclear-fuel cycle—one which includes the ability to separate and reuse plutonium—the vice admiral added, wouldn't provoke a strong reaction from the U.S. "because at the present time the dependence of the Argentine nuclear program on the United States is practically nil."

"For that reason," he told a Brazilian reporter, "the only thing that can happen is an improvement because relations and cooperation in our field with the United States couldn't be worse."

A major source of Argentina's independence stems from the type of power reactor it purchased from West Germany. Atucha I is a "heavy water" reactor that uses natural uranium fuel and, unlike the more common

special enriched uranium fuel obtainable only from the U.S., the Soviet Union or Western Europe.

Emanuel Morgan, a former safeguards inspector for the International Atomic Energy Agency, said that the Atucha I type of reactor is the most difficult type to monitor because its nuclear fuel is loaded and unloaded constantly and it doesn't need to be closed for regular inventories.

"Because the reactor can run on less than a full fuel load, there may be more fuel in the reactor than has been declared. Or some fuel may have been taken out that was never declared," he said.

Mr. Morgan, who recently wrote a report on the agency's problems for the U.S. Nuclear Regulatory Commission, emphasized that he wasn't familiar with the specific problems at Atucha I, only with the difficulties related to monitoring that type of reactor.

"There are lapses in surveillance," he noted, because agency inspectors can't be present at all times. In their absence, cameras are used to watch the reloading of the reactor and the storage of spent nuclear fuel in a nearby cooling pond, but the cameras don't always work very well, he said.

Mr. Morgan's general criticisms of the agency prompted the NRC commissioners to conclude last November that they weren't confident that the international agency, a Vienna-based branch of the United Nations, could give timely warning of a nuclear diversion. And that, in turn, prompted a barrage of 39 questions from Rep. Richard Ottinger (D., N.Y.), chairman of a House energy subcommittee. He wanted to know, among other things, whether the NRC has seen evidence of a diversion from a facility policed by the international agency.

In March, Nunzio Palladino, NRC chairman, replied with 35 answers, noting that "appropriate Executive Branch agencies" had ordered that the question and answer to the matter of evidence of a nuclear diversion be classified as sensitive information.

This has resulted in a great deal of private speculation in Congress over which country might be involved and several sources indicate that Argentina is high on the list of suspects. George R. LaPlante, an attorney for the Central Intelligence Agency, has since warned the NRC that the NRC can't legally release "certain CIA or unclassified information" that is classified.

Meanwhile, Argentina has been given considerable outside help in its efforts to become a major, independent source of nuclear fuel and technology.

The Atucha reactor requires heavy water to control its reaction and recently the Soviet Union agreed to supply Atucha with five tons of heavy water, an artificially altered isotope of water. Sulzer Brothers, a Swiss company, is supplying Argentina with machinery to build its own heavy water plant, scheduled to begin operations in 1984. France has been involved in the construction of Argentina's uranium-milling plants and Canada and Italy are involved in building an additional heavy water nuclear-power reactor.



Looking ahead—British Scorpion tank and army helicopters during training exercise in the mountains of Wales. About 3,000 troops took part in four-day exercise, reportedly in prepara-

tion for the occupation of the Falkland Islands, should Britain recapture them from Argentina. On Wednesday, Britain announced a full air and sea blockade of the disputed islands. (Story, Page 1.)

Associated Press

Los Angeles Times

Sunday, May 2, 1982

OPINION

The Falklands Crisis May End Pax

By CHARLES WILLIAM MAYNES

WASHINGTON—Late last week, British diplomats here were confident that their fleet and expeditionary force would have little trouble defeating Argentina in any military showdown. "We expect to win," one official said, "perhaps with a lot of casualties, mostly Argentine."

But war, particularly in a place as distant and exotic as the Falkland Islands, is a roll of the dice for any nation. The unexpected can always happen. A sudden break in the clouds, the chance spotting of a British ship and the Argentine air force could snatch victory from the jaws of defeat.

Even diplomacy may yet have a part to play, though all initiatives seemed to have come to an end Friday, when Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. announced that the United States was ending with Britain, and applying sanctions to Argentina. Still, the very implausible may yet occur. Against all odds, the junta in Buenos Aires may finally come to its senses.

But one thing is clear: However this miserable affair ends, there will be lasting consequences. This crisis spells major changes for Pax Americana, for the Northern Hemisphere's global role and for Latin America's place in the world.

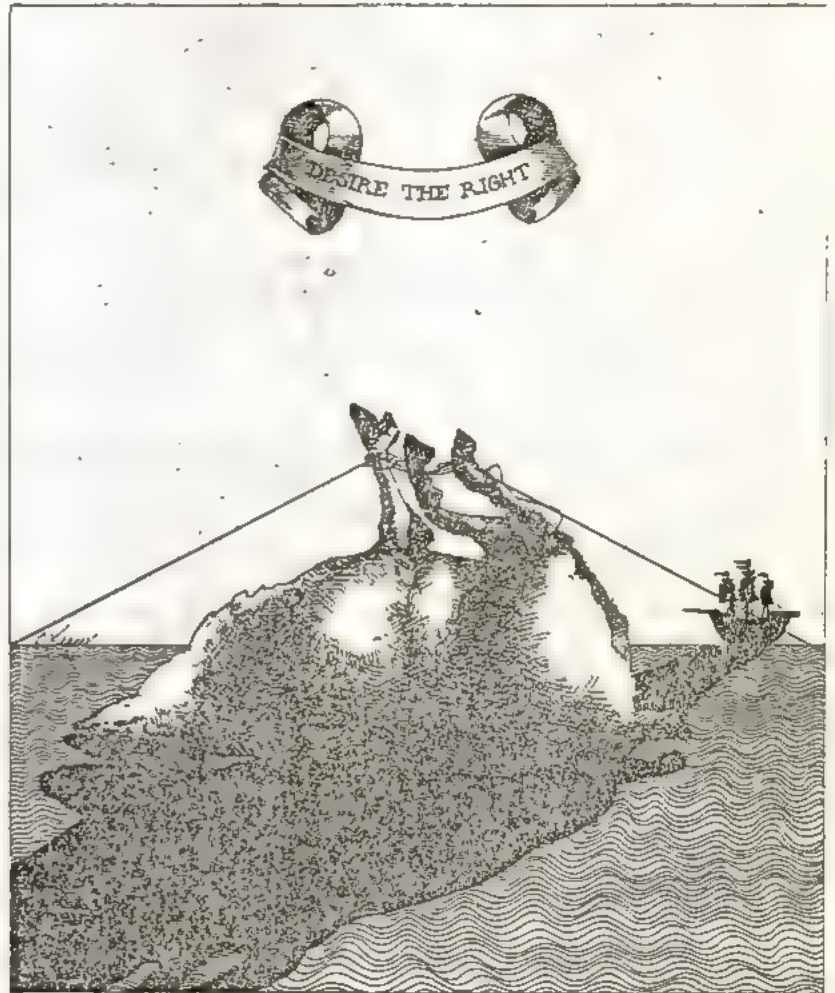
For the United States, this affair will mark a new, troubling, but inevitable stage in its relations with Latin America—the end, in other words, of the so-called Pax Americana. Obviously, the close new relationship that the Reagan Administration has carefully—if unwisely—cultivated with Argentina is at an end. Even if the current crisis topples Argentina President Leopoldo Galtieri from office, which seems likely, his successor will doubtless inherit bitter memories of Washington's "betrayal."

Similarly, Latin American response to Friday's decision by Washington will be harshly negative. Some of these nations have border disputes they, too, would like to settle by force; others are reflexively anti-American; all will feel a swell of hemispheric and cultural solidarity at the sight of another Latin American nation being assailed by the world's two great English-speaking countries. This latter condition was ominously foreshadowed when Haig spoke about the crisis before the Organization of American States (OAS). The secretary's address was greeted with complete silence, whereas the jingoistic appeal of his Argentine counterpart brought cheers and standing ovations.

For most of the postwar period, the OAS has fit the description once given to this writer by a senior Mexican diplomat: "An organization consisting of a large cat surrounded by a group of passive mice." No more, even though the Argentines did not get all they wanted. Whatever subsequently happens in the South Atlantic, hemispheric solidarity and hemispheric defense died during that moment of silence following Haig's speech. The cat is no longer completely in charge.

All of this is further complicated by the possibility that the trauma of this crisis may drive Argentina, already far advanced in the field, to acquire nuclear weapons.

For the West in general, the consequences of the conflict may be even more painful. The Falklands affair, however it ends, may decisively mark the end of the Western era in large areas of the globe. For the harsh international response to the Argentine action, which prompted a U.N. rebuff and stimulated a British military response, may temporarily obscure from public view an



CATHERINE KANNER / for The Times

important reality: There are now large areas of the globe that the Occidental powers (including the Soviet Union) no longer have the capability to defend against regional powers over an extended period of time.

Before this crisis, British diplomats, acting behind the scenes, were skillfully attempting to take this new reality into account. They had entered into a graduated program to involve Argentina in island life. The British government had inserted into the law limiting immigration into Britain from the Commonwealth a provision that had the effect of denying the children of Falkland Islanders the right to call themselves British subjects. The population of the islands had already dropped to

such a low level that the native-born numbered barely more than 1,000. Impatient demagogues in Buenos Aires prevented the process from ending in a peaceful solution.

Nor are the British the only Western powers attempting to adjust their policies to the new realities. A few years ago, France sent its Foreign Legionnaires to Chad to attempt to bring order to that country. Today in Chad, France finances an African force organized by the Organization of African States. In the 1950s, the United States could directly overturn governments in Central America. Today, it has difficulty controlling events in El Salvador. Even the Soviet Union suffers from this ero-

Americana

sion in power. In the 1950s and 1960s, it could invade Hungary and Czechoslovakia without hesitation. Today, it attempts to work more indirectly in Poland.

The Falklands crisis confirms definitively this larger trend in part because the islands in question are so small. If the lessons of American defeat in far away Vietnam or Soviet difficulties in nearby Afghanistan are uncertain, the lessons of the Falklands crisis are unmistakable: The powers of the Northern Hemisphere can no longer police the Southern. For even if Britain battles the Argentine fleet and recaptures the islands, it will have to compromise. It cannot afford to maintain a massive task force thousands of miles from home to defend a handful of its countrymen.

This is not to suggest that the world always will be better off in conditions where the strong can destroy one another but find it more and more difficult to control the weak. For as the Falklands affair suggests, the local order imposed by a regional power may be even more unacceptable than the order imposed by a power aspiring to a global role. In this case, the cats were right and the mice were wrong.

Finally, the Falklands crisis, however resolved, will mark the end of the era when Latin America could stand apart from the global scene. As a result of this crisis, Argentina, whether victorious or defeated, will move closer to the Soviet Union. Moreover, if Argentine aggression opens up, as many fear, a whole series of border disputes in Latin America, the Soviet Union will face a growing number of opportunities to play a spoiler's role.

Increasingly, both superpowers are finding to their mutual dismay that their privileged spheres of influence are being penetrated by the other side. The dependence of Eastern Europe on Western credits and technology is well known. The rapid growth of Soviet trade and credit penetration of key countries in Latin America is less well understood. Robert Leiken, an expert on Latin America, has pointed out that Soviet trade with Latin America, excluding Cuba, grew tenfold between 1970 and 1977; and even though that trade remains small, Soviet credit to the region, excluding Cuba, grew from 2% of total Soviet credits to developing nations in the 1960s to 25% by the mid-1970s.

In each area, the dominant superpower thus sees the number of diplomatic opportunities for its rival increasing. In the words of a French observer, the two global powers are now engaged in a race of "competitive decadence."

Does the adverse character of the consequences likely to flow from the Falklands crisis mean that the costs of U.S. support for the British are too high? Not at all. The Falklands crisis is like a spring thaw. The river ice may be weak, but only when the surface finally cracks is it clear that no one should stand on it.

A similar phenomenon has taken place in the South Atlantic these past weeks. Trends adverse to the United States have been gaining force in the region for some time. The Falklands affair brings them finally into full sight.

The world is thus entering into a period of much more fluid diplomacy. Along with new problems there will be new opportunities. They cannot be seized, however, by those relying only on a long sword and fixed views. Which superpower scores gains in the years ahead may well depend more on wits than on arms.

Charles William Maynes is the editor of Foreign Policy magazine.

Argentina Enacts Controls On Defense-Vital Exports

By JEREMY MORGAN

Journal of Commerce Special

BUENOS AIRES — Argentina's government Tuesday announced controls on some exports as the crisis with Britain seemed to move closer to open war.

Amid reports suggesting that the authorities were studying ways of putting the economy under direct government control, should that prove necessary, the authorities took control of exports of goods needed for national defense and security.

The list included obvious items like trucks and other vehicles, spare parts, navigation equipment, bridge-building equipment, lead and other materials. The order was made under Decree 789.

Government spokesmen said that the measures, along with others in social, political and military fields, will be aimed at achieving "maximum military power and a stable internal front capable of withstanding possible hardships in production, services and supply, while maintaining order."

Economic controls could be imposed to curb speculation and regulate production when and if justified by "a war emergency," the government warned.

A statement was issued after a day in which the condition of the economy and problems created by the worsening conflict with Britain had been studied at length by economic experts.

Sources close to the national bank, a separate entity from the central bank, suggested that official support had been running at a level of over 1 billion pesos a day since early this month.

Short-term "call money" rates have remained at comparatively low levels of 112 to 115 percent since the special measures taken by the authorities, which included a reduction in banks' minimum reserve requirements from 18 to 17 per cent. Fixed deposit rates, which were running at up to 250 percent at one stage, are now running at around 120 percent, sources say.

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Junta—Getting Jilted ...

Argentina now sees how few friends it has. The Organization of American States is being remarkably evenhanded. No one can now claim that the United States is neutral, only that it is speaking with a certain reserve in public so that its diplomacy may be given a last chance to work. Moscow mutters, but from far away.

So the Argentine dictatorship, having failed to persuade the world that Britain, not it, was the aggressor in the Falkland Islands crisis, now faces on the main islands the full weight of the British South Atlantic force.

Perhaps only the application of that force can make Argentina's rulers flinch; the personal and political cost of giving in to Britain's minimum demands without a fight may prove to be too high. Those demands appear, reasonably enough, to be that Argentina will withdraw from the islands, that Britain will negotiate sovereignty over them but that Argentina will not have an automatic guarantee of sovereignty over them, and that the wishes of the English-speaking islands must somehow be taken into account.

For Britain to insist on less would show the world that aggression is, after all, its own reward.

For the United States not to back Britain's minimum requirements would be unthinkable. All the evidence indicates the U.S. government knows which side it's on, and the British government knows too, despite some pleas by British and American politicians and press for more vocal support for Britain from Washington.

The United States backed the U.N. Security Council resolution condemning the Argentine invasion and asking for Argentine withdrawal and negotiations.

The United States opposed pro-Argentine resolutions in the Organization of American States. Whatever Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.'s original view of the Argentine junta, he has made no secret of his distaste for it in recent days. And the British government, in public and private, has said the U.S. attempt to mediate the conflict has been in Britain's interest.

Britain is doing the world's work for it now. For this all other nations who care about civilized international behavior are in Britain's debt, even as they await with anxiety the outcome of another, larger battle that should not, in this year 1982, have had to be fought.

... and Jailing Journalists

The military rulers in Argentina seem determined to go ahead with the outrageous prosecution of three British journalists on charges of espionage. They have been sent to prison, denied bail and told that they will come to trial in about six weeks.

The journalists, Ian Mather and Tony Prime of the Observer and Simon Winchester of the Sunday Times, were arrested while doing what journalists are supposed to be doing—finding out just what is going on and reporting to their readers. Their arrest came near the naval base of Rio Grande 11 days after the Argentine forces seized the Falkland Islands from the British.

It is curious that Argentine authorities are pursuing this case with such vigor, particularly in light of their commendable behavior toward other British citizens and even soldiers caught up in the dispute. No action has been taken against British people living in Argentina, and the British marines captured during the Argentine invasion on April 2

have been sent home with what the Observer and the Sunday Times called impeccable correctness and exceptional chivalry.

With the three journalists, the Argentine authorities are engaged in exceptional absurdity. The journalists, who report that they are being treated well in jail and are even dining with the commander of the prison, insist that they had in their possession only the kind of notes and photographs gathered by the Argentine and foreign press. The argument put forward by naval intelligence officers that the three men were in possession of "secret information" has not been bolstered by convincing evidence.

Argentina is playing to world opinion in its dispute with Britain and would like greater understanding of its position. It does itself no good by pushing the case against the three journalists, who were guilty only of engaging in professional duties regarded as legitimate by all civilized countries.

Weather Could Be a Decisive Factor

British, Argentine Fleets Designed to Face Other Foes

By DIAL TORGERSO, Times Staff Writer

BUENOS AIRES—The British had prepared for a war with the Soviet Union, the Argentines for a war with Brazil or Chile. But now, by a strange twist of history, Britain and Argentina are pitted against each other in the South Atlantic.

Britain is advancing toward the Falkland Islands with what is, essentially, a defensive force. And Argentina must meet it with what is basically an attack force. By military logic they should swap fleets.

But, naval experts here say, the deciding factor may turn out to be which side is best able to operate in the worst of weather. Some of the dirtiest weather in the world is about to close in, as it does each year, around the fringes of Antarctica, and it is there that the action would take place.

Weather a Decisive Factor

Sailors who know these far-south seas say there may be two weeks before the storms come to stay for the southern winter. Which side will the bad weather help? Britain's all-weather ability—learned in the North Sea—may be decisive, some observers say.

"It is not a place for planes," said an Argentine naval captain. "And, once the storms come, it is a terrible place for ships as well. Storms, high waves, constant clouds."

The two fleets were designed for other opponents. No one here thought that when Argentina fought its first war since the Paraguay war of 1865-70 it might be against Britain. This country's prospective foes have always been thought to be Brazil and Chile.

Since the turn of the century, the three "A.B.C." countries have been trying to match navies. In 1912, Argentina, which had already ordered two battleships from the United States, almost bought a third dreadnaught, as they were then called, because Brazil also had two. However, a naval history notes, "disarmament leftists in the Congress defeated the plan."

The two battleships, each requiring a huge crew of 1,200 men, served until the 1950s, never firing a shot in anger. After World War II, nations changed their naval emphasis to aircraft carriers. Now, Brazil and Argentina each has one former British attack carrier of what is called the Colossus class.

"After all the years of preparing for war with us, they find themselves going to war with Britain,"

said a Brazilian diplomat, barely suppressing a smile, at a Buenos Aires cocktail party.

Chile, because it feared it might fight a war with Argentina over disputed islands in the Beagle Channel of Tierra del Fuego, at the continent's stormy southern tip, opted for a modern Swedish-built cruiser rather than an aircraft carrier.

"Chile felt planes would be of less use there than a cruiser, because of the weather," a local historian explained. Chile also has two World War II-style cruisers similar to one owned by Argentina.

The nationalism that inspired the battleship competition of the early part of the century and today's continuing costly investment naval hardware has put Argentina in a more favorable position in the crisis with Britain than would otherwise have been the case.

As both the British Empire and the British defense budget shrank, Britain sold its attack carriers to nations such as Brazil and Argentina

and invested in anti-submarine craft that would protect its seelanes in case of war with the Soviet Union.

The two carriers Britain has sent south into battle were both designed for defense against submarines and carry helicopters and all-purpose Harrier jets, which can take off and land vertically by changing the direction of their jet engines thrust. Each carrier usually carries five Harriers but it has been reported that the two are carrying a total of 30.

One of the two British carriers, the *Invincible*, had been sold to Australia in a budget-cutting move but had not been delivered when Argentina invaded the Falklands on April 2. The British delayed delivery in order to use the carrier.

The Argentine navy's attack carrier, the British-built 25th of May, can carry 20 high-performance fighters and bombers that have greater range than Britain's Harriers.

Britain's escort ships are modern

destroyers, frigates and corvettes equipped with sophisticated missiles. But ship-borne missiles are designed primarily for shooting down aircraft or sinking other ships, not for shelling an island in preparation for a landing. The destroyer *Exeter*, which shielded the defenses at South Georgia Is. and before Britain's landing there Sunday, had to do so with only one gun. The rest of its weaponry is missiles, each of which costs more than all the targets on the island are worth.

Argentina, on the other hand, has World War II-style destroyers with six guns each, the sort that shelled the beaches at Normandy and Iwo Jima.

But if Britain would be able to find good use for some of the old-fashioned equipment now in the hands of the Argentines, the British have a definite advantage in electronics. Also, naval experts stationed here say that the all-weather capability of the Harrier makes it possible for it to fly when Argentina's jets must be grounded.

OPINION AND COMMENTARY

When Buenos Aires blinked

By Joseph C. Harsch

This has been a week when the Argentine generals blinked; when the United States turned back officially to "competitive coexistence" with the Soviets; and when all eyes in the Middle East turned toward Washington to see whether President Reagan would allow Israel to keep the rest of the occupied territories.

It was a particularly trying time for the members of the ruling military junta in Buenos Aires. They had sailed forth so confidently on their Falkland Islands venture only four weeks ago.

In those euphoric days (for them) it could be assumed as they obviously did that Britain would make unhappy noises but neither could nor would do anything serious to disrupt or contest an easy and popular conquest.

Four weeks later the picture is different. Not only have the British done something. They have done it firmly, vi-

gorously, and with a brilliant and almost bloodless early victory at South Georgia. To add to the discomfiture of the smartly uniformed leaders of the Argentine junta, the United States leaned toward Britain and the Latin neighbors failed to provide the solid backing for the Falklands venture that Argentina sought at a gathering of the members of the Organization of American States (OAS).

Britain's partners in the European Common Market had rallied to its side almost from the start. They announced a boycott of Argentine exports on April 10. Earlier, on April 3, the United Nations Security Council had voted 10 to 1 for withdrawal of Argentine forces from the islands.

The net of it over the past week was that the British had the approval of the overwhelming majority of the countries of the world. But Argentina had only lukewarm sympathy from some, not all, neighbors and no real support

from anyone. The nearest thing it had to comfort was from Moscow, which was supplying reconnaissance information on British military movements. But even that could be only cold comfort, since it confirmed that a substantial and firmly intentioned fleet of British warships accompanied by troop transports was on its way.

When a small part of that British force nipped off the Argentine landing force on South Georgia Island en passant, and beached and captured an Argentine submarine in the process (with two shots), it became clear in Buenos Aires that things were not going as planned. A rump at Britain's expense was turning into a prestige disaster.

When US Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. spoke up at the OAS meeting in Washington against any resolution to condemn Britain, the Argentine junta huffed and said they would not have Mr. Haig back again in Buenos Aires. He had "disqualified" himself as a mediator, they said.

But as British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher bent off opposition criticism in Parliament easily and her battle array steamed on toward the main islands of the Falklands group, the junta in Buenos Aires decided that, after all, it would condescend to study the latest plan for a compromise settlement put forward by Washington.

Mrs. Thatcher did not blink. The generals in Buenos Aires did. (This is where matters stood as we went to press.)

Meanwhile Secretary Haig made a speech in Washington memorable for the skill with which it steered US policy toward Moscow back into the pre-Reagan-era mainstream.

The US, he said, now faces a "historic opportunity" to signal to the emerging new generation of Soviet leaders "the benefits of greater restraint."

Benefit from greater restraint was always the central theme in the doctrine of "competitive coexistence" dating from the Khrushchev era, which was carried forward in Nixon-Kissinger days into what came to be called "détente."

The theory was that the West would open up to Moscow the prospect of access to Western technology as a reward

if the Soviets would, in return, be more restrained in their pursuit of a broader Soviet sphere of influence.

It was often phrased as implying that the West, by doing business with the Soviets, would be thrown into sharing an interest in political stability.

Mr. Haig's speech, made to the US Chamber of Commerce on April 27, pushed aside with equal deftness some favorite early Reagan-era themes. Refusal to negotiate "cannot lead to capitulation by the other superpower."

"Total victory by military means has become a formula for mutual catastrophe."

"We cannot claim that we are too weak to negotiate and at the same time insist that we are strong enough for a policy of all-out confrontation."

If there is no such thing as a tolerable military victory, and if there is nothing to be gained by confrontation, and if something might be gained by negotiation, and if the US is strong enough to negotiate, then let's negotiate.

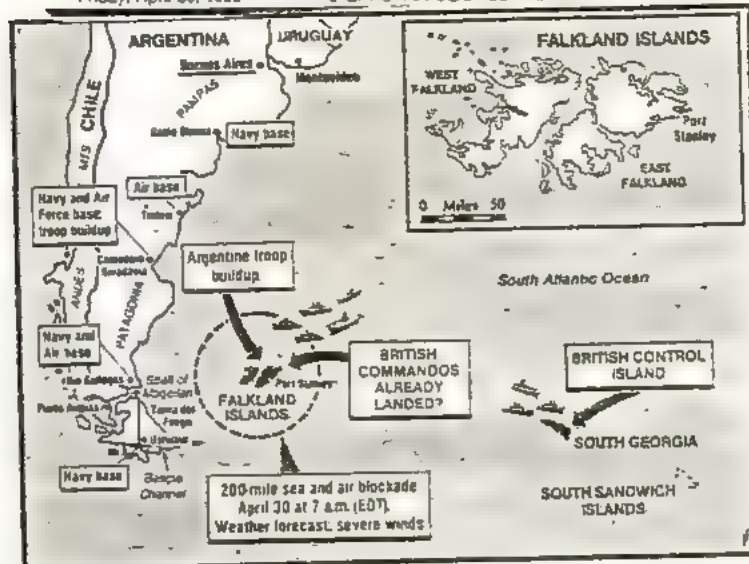
That was the logic behind Kissinger diplomacy toward Moscow. This is the logic Mr. Haig preached this past week. He was obviously providing the public a rationale for why the Reagan administration that took office breathing confrontation is getting ready to try negotiation instead.

Meanwhile, fifteen years of American effort to steer Israel and its Arab neighbors toward peace in the Middle East achieved a substantial - although incomplete - success when Israeli troops pulled out of Sinai, leaving that province to its new Egyptian owners. Formal peace now exists between Egypt and Israel. But can that partial peace be expanded to include all of Israel's Arab neighbors?

The answer lies in Washington. Israeli Prime Minister Menachem Begin intends to keep the rest of the occupied territories. Without much doubt he will keep them unless Washington takes a strong hand in reviving the Camp David formula and its plan for "full autonomy" for the Arabs of those other territories.

So all eyes turn to Washington to see whether Mr. Reagan will try to revive Camp David, or let Mr. Begin have his way.

**PATTERN
OF
DIPLOMACY**



Thatcher rallies support as fleet braces for battle

By Tim McGirk

Special to The Christian Science Monitor
London

As the British armada braces itself for a battle in the icy Falkland waters, Margaret Thatcher is faced with the perhaps equally difficult task of keeping public support of her tough stand from flagging.

Until now the British Prime Minister has managed to rally her political critics to the opinion that Argentina's military junta will only retreat from the Falkland Islands at gunpoint. The British public so far has given her overwhelming backing. And the West European allies have also rallied to her side.

However, with the possibility of a long and bloody clash between Argentina and the British fleet peering by the hour, many analysts here expect political and public opinion to begin to shift.

Already Mrs. Thatcher has been taking fire from all three opposition parties — Labour, the Liberals, and the Social Democrats. She is charged with not searching hard enough for a diplomatic exit from the Falklands crisis.

Such criticism came to a head at a stormy emergency debate in the House of Commons April 29, broadcast nationwide. Labour Party leader Michael Foot assailed the Conservative government for not calling United Nations mediators into the dispute. Mr. Foot urged Mrs. Thatcher to dispatch Foreign Secretary Francis Pym to New York for talks with UN Secretary-General Javier Pérez de Cuellar.

Mrs. Thatcher replied, "If anyone can solve the crisis, it's General [and Secretary of State Alexander] Haig. The United Nations cannot always enforce its

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Argentina mans battle stations

By James Nelson Goodsell

Latin America correspondent of
The Christian Science Monitor

Buenos Aires

While Washington pursues its frantic search for a formula to avert South Atlantic war between Argentina and Britain, the probability of such a war looms ever larger here.

The Argentine military doubts that conflict with the British can be averted. Military officials are understood to feel that war is likely to break out within 48 hours. At time of writing Thursday, the Argentine military forces were on full battle alert.

Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez has stayed in the United States conferring in both Washington and New York in his own last-minute quest for a way out of the escalating crisis. And it was still thought possible here Thursday that US Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. might shuttle down to Buenos Aires this weekend.

But Argentine government sources have virtually given up hope of success for his mission. They say the military government rejects the latest Reagan administration plan to defuse the crisis. They add that the plan is little different from others that Mr. Haig tried out on Argentina during his two diplomatic missions to Buenos Aires earlier this month.

"Time has run out," says an official in the Casa Rosada (Pink House), the Argentine White House. "The negotiations are a dead issue."

The details of the latest Reagan plan are not clear. But from here it is understood to be much like earlier US proposals, calling for a sharply increased US role in a tripartite Argentine-British-US rule of the Falklands, including a heavy US troop presence. But the proposal has apparently run into difficulties here because it does not include guarantees for Argentine sovereignty over the islands.

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From page 7

Thatcher rallies support as fleet braces for battle

judgment."

Although Mrs. Thatcher in her opening address to Parliament was unwilling to discuss the details of the American peace plan, she declared that it "inevitably bears the hallmarks of a compromise."

She added, "The crisis was started by Argentina invading the Falklands and it can only be settled by an immediate withdrawal of Argentine troops."

But Mrs. Thatcher stressed that the government was still open to last-minute negotiations. Earlier, after a Cabinet meeting at No. 10 Downing Street, Defense Secretary John Nott declared that Britain has not "abandoned hope" of a diplomatic solution to the Falklands crisis.

Most observers here, however, considered that a major clash between Britain and Argentina was imminent — probably within the next 24 hours. At 7 a.m. (Eastern daylight time) April 30 the British task force was scheduled to start enforcing a total air and sea blockade around the disputed islands, and Argentina's military rulers have threatened to strike Britain first.

The peace proposals sent to Buenos Aires and London by the State Department April 27 are viewed by Mrs. Thatcher's government as seriously flawed. According to the Foreign Office, there are four points Britain cannot accept:

- A withdrawal of the British fleet parallel to an evacuation of Argentine troops from the Falklands. (The British insist that, as a precondition for anything else, the Argentines must reverse their original invasion and pull out.)
- Any discussion of British sovereignty over the territory.
- The question of joint Anglo-Argentine administration in Port Stanley, the Falklands' capital.
- The US plan's failure to consider the wishes of the islands' 1,300 inhabitants in the dispute. (Other reports suggest that the wishes of the Falklanders will be considered under the US plan, but those wishes would not

be binding.)

Public opinion for Mrs. Thatcher has been running high since the Falklands flare-up. Polls taken by the Economist magazine give her basic strategy more than 80 percent support; and, according to a recent Sunday Times poll, the proportion of Britons now backing the Conservative government and Mrs. Thatcher herself has jumped 10 percent over a sampling taken before the crisis.

But the polls also suggest that if British vessels are sunk and lives lost, the prime minister's position would be weakened. Reverses in the South Atlantic could, presumably be paralleled by similar political reverses at home.

Before Argentina's ruling military triumvirate ordered the Falklands invasion three weeks ago, those few Britons who thought of Argentina at all considered it to be a distant land known mainly for its corned beef and amazing footballers.

Two of Argentina's World Cup players, Ozzie Ardiles and Rucky Villa, joined the London Club of Tottenham Hotspur and their dazzling footwork became the stuff of popular legend. But Ardiles returned home soon after the Falklands crisis. And Villa is often booed by rival clubs when he appears on the field.

"I wish Argentina hadn't started all this," said John Scanlon, north London butcher and ardent Tottenham fan. "It would be better if they let the lads play football in peace. But someone has to show those dictators that you can't redraw the map of the world by force. Britain is right to defend the Falklanders."

But a client in his butcher shop disagreed. "Britain's response and the possibility that hundreds, maybe thousands, will die on both sides is all out of proportion," declared a thin scholarly man. "There's nothing on the island but penguins and a few hundred sheepherders. Let's use the money spent on the fleet to repatriate the Falkland residents."

This conversation and dozens of similar ones overheard here reflect the fact that although most British people are willing to back Mrs. Thatcher's showdown in the South Atlantic, they are not without certain misgivings.

Argentina Sets Exclusion Zone In Falkland Crisis

Declaration of 200-Mile Ban Around Its Coast, Islands Adds Tension to Dispute

By DAVID BRAND

Staff Reporter of THE WALL STREET JOURNAL

Argentina declared its own 200-mile exclusion zone around its coastal waters and the Falkland Islands, adding a new element of tension to its crisis with Britain.

It banned all British military or civilian airplanes and ships from a 200-mile area "along the Argentine coast, and around the Malvinas (Falklands), South Georgias and South Sandwich Islands." The restrictions became effective yesterday, and the country said any breaches would be considered hostile "and treated as such."

Britain on Wednesday said that beginning today it would consider hostile all air traffic and shipping in a 200-mile area around the Falklands. Earlier in London, there had been some optimism that a diplomatic way out of the four-week-old crisis could be found.

The United Kingdom's thread of hope had been based on proposals presented by U.S. Secretary of State Haig, which British officials believed could allow Argentine withdrawal from the island without its having to abandon claims to sovereignty.

But in Washington, the Reagan administration had maintained a pessimistic outlook as Congress clamored for the U.S. to side openly with Britain.

The White House and State Department issued identical statements saying there wasn't any movement in the negotiations and there was "very little basis for optimism."

Meanwhile, the House Foreign Affairs Committee passed a nonbinding resolution expressing "full U.S. diplomatic support" for Britain if war breaks out. And, in the Senate, 13 lawmakers cosponsored a resolution calling on the U.S. to help "further British efforts" to get Argentine forces off the Falkland Islands.

Britain's hopes for a peaceful settlement were summed up yesterday by Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Speaking in the House of Commons, she described the latest Haig proposals as "complex and difficult," but bearing "all the hallmarks of compromise in both substance and language."

It isn't just the proposals themselves that might force an Argentine pullout, some U.K. government sources say. The consensus in London is that Argentina has been caught in a pincer, with the British naval task force bearing down on the islands and with the possibility—in the British view—that Washington will impose economic sanctions on Buenos Aires if the latest Haig proposals fail.

This more optimistic view of the crisis in British eyes still doesn't rule out the possibility of a military confrontation, British officials say. Under Britain's declaration of a 200-mile "total exclusion zone" around the Falklands, which goes into effect at 7 a.m. EDT today, all unauthorized ships or aircraft in the area are subject to attack by British forces.

British officials continued to keep up the drumbeat of war-preparation talk yesterday, and Commodore Michael Klapp of the British navy told a radio interviewer that landing sites on the Falklands have been chosen.

The British note that the latest U.S. proposals are totally Washington's in origin and are markedly different from proposals previously presented by British Foreign Secretary Francis Pym. Earlier negotiations failed because the British insisted on an immediate withdrawal of Argentine forces from the Falklands before negotiations on the islands' future could begin. The Argentines have refused to discuss the question of their self-proclaimed sovereignty over the Falklands, which they call the Malvinas.

The British aren't insisting on their continued sovereignty over the islands, but rather the immediate return to British administration. Nor would the British object to the installation of a symbol of Argentine sovereignty, such as the Argentine flag, on the Falklands. But the British government insists that sovereignty must be negotiated and then approved by the 1,800 residents of the islands.

There is the possibility of a United Nations role in solving the dispute, Mrs.

Thatcher said in Parliament yesterday that the UN has been asked about the part it "might be able to play in the longer term in negotiating and implementing a diplomatic settlement."

The next move, in the British government's view, is up to the Argentines, a point that seems to be puzzling Washington. U.S. State Department spokesman Dean Fischer said Wednesday that Washington is awaiting a response to the Haig proposals from both London and Buenos Aires.

But the British Foreign Office's chief spokesman, Nicholas Fenn, yesterday emphasized that Argentina, not Britain, must respond first. A diplomatic source in London saw this as an effort to put maximum pressure on Argentina.

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THE WALL STREET JOURNAL.

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EASTERN EDITION

FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1982

WHITE OAK, MARYLAND

News—

World-Wide

ARGENTINA IMPOSED its own 200-mile war zone around the Falklands.

But unlike a similar British exclusion zone set to go into effect today, Argentina included a 200-mile area along its coast and the Sandwich Islands and South Georgias, which already are in British hands. Earlier in London, there had been hope of a diplomatic solution through U.S. Secretary of State Haig's proposals on withdrawal of Argentine troops.

The White House maintained there was "very little basis for optimism," as Congress pushed for the U.S. to side openly with Britain.

The Washington Post

AN INDEPENDENT NEWSPAPER

An Unnecessary War

THE BRITISH and the Argentines are jostling themselves toward the edge of a cliff. Today may be their last chance to move back. The conflict they are heading for is bound to be exceedingly costly, in ways perhaps not even imagined today. Worse, it is unnecessary. A formula for settlement is available. The United States is doing what it can to put this formula forward, but it cannot save the two contestants from themselves.

The prime American political and moral requirement is, indisputably, to stand with the British against undemocratic Argentina's aggression. But there is more to be said. The British in the first instance did not ask Washington to enlist at their side. They asked Washington to use diplomacy to get them out of the pickle they had gotten themselves in by asserting a sovereignty claim they could not defend, and then by ignoring the plain signs that Argentina intended to move.

Britain, then, deserves warm American support. But Mrs. Thatcher should make the adjustment necessary to give American diplomacy a fair chance. That means easing up somewhat in her demand that the 1,800 islanders maintain an effective veto

over sovereignty discussions. The British owe much to the islanders, but not a lock on their policy in the name of "self-determination." Democratic countries have respectable ways of caring for nationals whose personal interests must yield to high policy. So Israel cared for the settlers in the Sinai, the United States for the Zonians in the Panama Canal.

Argentina, which got into its own trap by grabbing the islands on April 2, has an even more basic requirement. It must yield on its grotesque demand that sovereignty be granted even before negotiations begin. The principle that territory cannot be acquired by force must be affirmed. The Argentines are entitled to expect that their claim will be submitted to a prompt and impartial process, but no more. If they have a quarter of the confidence in their claim that they say they have, they can have no substantive objection to submitting it to proper adjudication. Everyone can see the British are eager to unload the islands, if fair treatment for the residents is provided.

There is no irreconcilable issue. There are only two governments stuck on the requirements of pride. A deepening war will signify political failure on both sides.

"GOODNESS KNOW"

Weather

Today—Mostly sunny, high 67-72, clear tonight, low 45-48. The chance of rain is near zero through tonight. Light winds.
Saturday—Sunny and warmer, high 74-78. Yesterday—Moon A9L 65; temp. range: 67-72. Details on Page B2.

The Washington Post

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Argentina Threatens Britain's Forces

U.S. Concedes Optimism Fades

By John M. Goshko
Washington Post Staff Writer

The United States acknowledged yesterday that its attempts to act as mediator in the Falkland Islands crisis remain stalled and said there is "very little basis for optimism" that

Britain and Argentina can be diverted from their collision course toward war.

That gloomy view came from the White House and State Department as administration spokesmen conceded that hopes of renewing Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.'s shuttle diplomacy were fading rapidly in the face of both sides' dissatisfaction with U.S. proposals for a negotiated solution.

In identical statements, White House deputy press secretary Larry Spivack and State Department

spokesman Dean Fischer said "The situation remains very serious. There is no movement and very little basis for optimism."

Asked about the status of Haig's peace-making efforts, Fischer replied that "we remain in touch with both parties." But he added: "It is the secretary's assessment that there is little basis for optimism that a settlement can be achieved."

The admission that Haig's role as mediator might be played out came as heavy pressure mounted in Congress. See RESPONSE, A21, Col. 1.

Ships, Planes Called 'Hostile'

By Jackson Diehl
Washington Post Foreign Service

BUENOS AIRES, April 29—Argentina declared tonight that all British air and naval forces within 200 miles of Argentina or the Falkland and South Georgia islands

would be considered "hostile" and would be "treated accordingly."

The announcement by Argentina's military junta was made in response to Britain's declaration that its previous naval blockade around the Falklands would be expanded to cover aircraft as well beginning at 7 a.m. EDT Friday. The junta said its measure would also go into effect Friday.

By defining British ships and planes as hostile for the first time, the junta's announcement constituted the strongest threat yet of a

first attack by Argentine forces. The announcement came after government officials here had said they were still willing to negotiate a diplomatic solution to the Falkland Islands crisis, even though a new U.S. plan was not considered acceptable.

Reports reaching London indicate that Argentina has been making dozens of military flights each day to Port Stanley on the Falklands and has not yet removed its planes from the airport runway there, Washington Post correspondent Leonard

See FALKLANDS, A22, Col. 1



A convoy of Argentine troops arrives in the port city of Comodoro Rivadavia as part of a buildup along the South Atlantic coast.

Situation 'Serious' As Pressure Builds To Back Britain

RESPONSE, From A1

gress for the administration to abandon its even-handed stance of the past four weeks and to side openly with Britain.

The House Foreign Affairs Committee adopted, by voice vote, a resolution saying that if the dispute is not settled peacefully, the United States should give "full diplomatic support" to Britain.

The Senate last night adopted, 79 to 1, a resolution cosponsored by a majority on the Foreign Relations Committee, saying the U.S. government "cannot stand neutral" in Britain's effort to achieve withdrawal of Argentine forces that occupied the Falklands April 2. Sen. Jesse Helms (R-N.C.) cast the dissenting vote.

The administration, apparently seeing the congressional restiveness as a way of signaling Argentina that widened warfare will bring the United States into Britain's corner, took what Fischer called a "hands-off policy" toward the congressional moves.

That decision reflected growing administration impatience at what is regarded as Argentine intransigence and stalling.

Although administration officials remained reluctant yesterday to choose sides publicly, it has been made clear to Argentina's military government that, in the event of a new armed conflict, the United States intends to "tilt" toward Britain and blame Argentina for rebuffing Haig's mission.

Efforts to pursue the latest U.S. proposals stopped Sunday when British forces recaptured South Georgia island and Argentina broke off efforts to negotiate with London through Haig.

Argentina still has not replied formally to the U.S. ideas and, when Fischer was asked yesterday if Washington expected a response from Buenos Aires, he said, "You will have to ask the Argentines their intentions."

At a meeting Wednesday with Haig, Argentine Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Mendez is understood to have said that his government rejects key aspects of the U.S. proposal but wants clarifications and more time to study them. Haig reportedly replied that no time is left.

Underlying the gloom in official circles here is the belief that it will be almost impossible to avert heavy fighting after Britain puts into effect today its broadened and air and sea blockade of the Falklands.

Key factions of the military junta controlling Argentina, including the commander of the Argentine fleet, are thought by U.S. officials to be demanding a showdown with the British armada, and defiant statements coming out of Buenos Aires yesterday appeared to make increasingly remote the likelihood that the Argentines will back down.

Although some officials privately described it as "going through the motions," the administration remained in touch with both sides yesterday. The emphasis was on trying to underscore to Argentina that Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government will not yield on its insistence that Argentine forces must be withdrawn from the Falklands before any negotiations about Argentina's claim to sovereignty.

"We're discussing the entire situation," Fischer said in reference to these continuing contacts.

But, in the face of persistent questioning, he kept falling back on his statement that there is "very little basis for optimism" and "no movement toward a peaceful resolution" in terms of the U.S. proposals or other possible approaches.

Argentina Threatens British Ships, Planes Around Falklands

FALKLANDS, From A1

Dominic Jr. reported. Asked if hostilities could occur on or around the Falklands by this weekend, one government source said, "It may be sooner than that."

[British sources said they strongly doubted that Argentina would accept the American negotiating plan and indicated that any Argentine response other than yes or no would be regarded in London as an attempt to prolong the Haig mission, without any real prospect of a peace settlement, in hopes that the Beagum administration would remain neutral or even try to postpone British military moves.]

[Officials in London said Britain's military timetable would not be affected by anything other than a firm Argentine commitment to withdraw from the Falklands.]

The Argentine junta's communiqué said that British warships, commercial vessels and all British aircraft would be subject to attack if they entered Argentine airspace or Argentine waters. The junta defined Argentine waters as a 200-mile area around the Argentine mainland coast as well as the Falkland Islands, the South Sandwich Islands and the South Georgia Islands now occupied by Britain's forces.

The junta added that the new measures had been ordered "without excluding any other additional measures that could be taken in exercise of the right of legitimate defense."

Diplomatic sources have said that elements of the British fleet were expected to be within range of Argentine aircraft on the Falklands and on coastal bases by today. Argentine analysts believe that the military junta has been seriously considering a preemptive Argentine air strike on British forces in the South Atlantic as its best military option.

Argentina had previously defined the 200-mile sea zone around its coast and the disputed islands as a theater of operations in which military action could be taken. Tonight's declaration expanded that zone to include airspace as well as saying that British craft would be considered hostile.

The communiqué came at the end of a day in which Argentine officials

had sought to demonstrate their continued willingness to reach a diplomatic solution with Britain in the four-week-old confrontation over the South Atlantic islands.

Interior Minister Alfredo Saint Jean, who is managing the Foreign Ministry in the absence of Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez, said that the U.S. plan "has a few elements that could be used."

"We are leaving open the possibility of continuing the negotiations, even with this proposal as a base, or improving or taking some previous elements," Saint Jean said.

Government sources said that Argentina was eager to keep alive the U.S. diplomatic role and will thus continue to seek modifications of the U.S. peace plan as long as Washington was willing to continue in a neutral role.

"We will never actively reject U.S. proposals," one government source said. "There is a difference between rejecting and not accepting. With the latter, we can at least keep the American in that middle position."

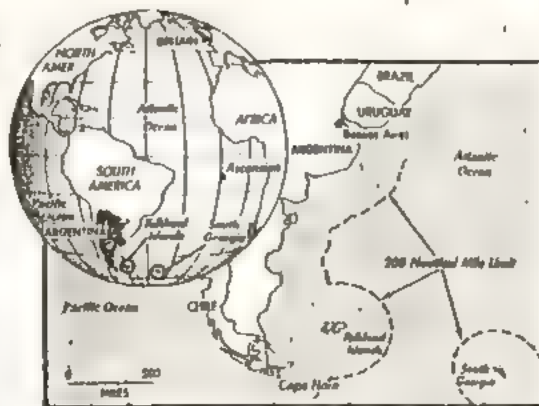
Nevertheless, government sources said Argentina was very pessimistic that a peaceful solution could be found before new hostilities break out. The chief Argentine objection to the latest U.S. proposal, officials indicated, was the same absence of guarantees of Argentine sovereignty over the Falklands that has stalled agreements through three weeks of U.S. diplomatic effort.

In an interview on a local radio station this morning, Saint Jean pointedly referred to this continuing difficulty, saying, "In no way could we accept a proposal that didn't have as a special condition the recognition of our sovereignty."

Reports here said that the new U.S. plan differed from previous proposals mainly in setting a time limit on negotiations between Argentina and Britain over sovereignty.

Argentina has demanded both a limit on negotiations and an assurance that they will lead to a transfer of control to Argentina of the islands. Argentina seized the islands on April 2, ending 149 years of British control that had always been disputed by Buenos Aires.

In a significant move by the



Argentina declared that it will treat as "hostile" British forces within marked zones.

military government to increase its internal control, the junta decreed prior censorship tonight on all foreign reports entering Argentina and on all reports about the military situation and "national security."

In a decree, the junta said that the military's joint chiefs of staff would have control over all incoming news and would have the right to prohibit any account of the military situation in the South Atlantic from being released.

The decree said that media editors and directors would be held personally responsible for what was broadcast and published in Argentina, and that they would be arrested and their publication closed if the censorship law was violated.

It was unclear tonight how that military censorship would apply to accounts by foreign journalists sent from Argentina, or specifically how it would be carried out within the country.

In recent days, the junta has sought to control information reaching the public in Argentina by limiting government information to communications released by the junta

and by calling on the public to beware of the "psychological war" the junta claims is being waged against Argentine morale. Tonight's measure, however, represented the first formal censorship ordered in Argentina by the military government.

Earlier this week the military banned travel by foreign reporters to Argentine coastal cities, but until now it has placed no other formal restrictions on foreign reporting.

Three British journalists who were arrested two weeks ago at the southern city of Rio Grande and subsequently ordered to stand trial on espionage charges today were allowed to give an interview to Argentine reporters in the town of Ushuaia, where they are being held.

The private news agency Noticias Argentinas quoted Simon Winchester of the London Sunday Times as saying that "We are not anything but journalists. The way we acted, if we were spies, we would be the worst in the world."

Winchester and Ian Mather and Anthony Prime of the London Observer were reported as saying that they were well treated by the Argen-

tine authorities and have been allowed certain special privileges.

Dominic also reported from London:

With the Haig peace-making efforts generally believed here to be close to collapse, a British Foreign Office spokesman emphasized, "We still feel that if the Haig mission should fail, the United States cannot be neutral. Our expectation is that the U.S. would support Britain" with diplomatic and economic sanctions against Argentina like those already imposed by European and Commonwealth countries.

Britain, however, does not want to be seen as the party breaking off negotiations. That is why the government of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has decided not to give Washington a formal reaction to the American peace plan, some of which it still finds unacceptable, until Argentina responds favorably to it.

Thatcher suggested to Parliament today and aides confirmed that the formal American peace plan is not acceptable, although one government source said, "It is reasonable to assume that if the Argentines accepted the proposals, the pressure would come on us."

"The [American] proposals are complex and difficult and inevitably bear all the hallmarks of compromise in both their substance and language," Thatcher told Parliament. "They have to be measured against the principles and objectives expressed so strongly in our debates."

Revealing new details of the peace plan and Britain's negotiating position, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym in Parliament and government sources in private conversations outlined "difficulties" the proposals still pose for Thatcher even though, according to one source, "they generally come down on our side."

The information from these sources indicates the U.S. plan, although complicated in detail, contains three main elements:

• A phased withdrawal of Argentine troops from the Falklands

matched by a "parallel" pullback of the British task force.

Government sources said, as Thatcher indicated earlier, that a U.S. or U.N. peace-keeping force would be needed to supervise the withdrawal and prevent a new Argentine occupation. In addition, 3,000 British troops have been undergoing training to serve as a British occupation force if the government believed one were necessary.

• After the Argentine withdrawal, interim administration of the Falklands for up to five years by British civil servants under British, Argentine and American supervision. Any Argentine role in the interim administration or the flying of Argentina's flag along with Britain's over government buildings on the islands is still unacceptable in Thatcher, according to government sources.

• During the interim administration, negotiations on the Falklands' long-term future.

The American plan makes no mention of Argentina's sovereignty claim but does it guarantee that the negotiations would eventually lead to a transfer of sovereignty from Britain to Argentina.

"This is one of the sticking points for Argentine," Pym said tonight, and the reason why British officials believe the plan is unacceptable to Buenos Aires.

But the American proposals apparently also do not satisfy Thatcher's demand for a guarantee of the right of self-determination for the 1,800 British inhabitants of the Falklands. Haig has reportedly proposed only that their wishes "be taken account of" in the negotiations, perhaps through an advisory referendum. "They have to have a real say in their future," one British source said, suggesting that the American plan attempts to "fudge this issue."

In any talks over long-term sovereignty or administration of the islands, Pym said, "We will cooperate with whatever outcome was acceptable to the Falkland Islanders."

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Crisis in the Falklands: London Discounts 'Gentle Persuasion'

Mrs. Thatcher Asserts Argentina Holds 'Key to Peace'

By R. W. APPLE Jr.
Special to The New York Times

LONDON, April 29 — With the dispute over the Falkland Islands about to enter its most dangerous phase, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher asserted today that "the key to peace is in the hands of the Argentine Government."

In an emergency debate in the House of Commons, the fourth since Argentina occupied the islands on April 2, Mrs. Thatcher affirmed the view that "gentle persuasion is not going to make the Argentine Government give up what it has seized by force."

She rejected, for the moment at least, demands from the opposition that she turn to the United Nations or to the International Court of Justice in a last-ditch attempt to avoid war.

About an hour after the debate ended, a rejoinder came from Argentina with the announcement that it planned to treat as hostile British ships and planes that approached the mainland, the Falklands or South Georgia. The Foreign Office said it had no immediate comment, but the announcement appeared to constitute an indirect rejection of diplomatic overtures.

Tone Is Less Intransigent

Mrs. Thatcher's tone sounded to many members slightly less intransigent than on other recent occasions. She was noncommittal, rather than hostile, in discussing the peace proposals of Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr., and she refrained from warning Argentina that time for diplomacy was running out.

But she reminded the House that in less than a day's time a total air and sea blockade would be put into effect by a British naval task force in a 200-mile zone around the Falklands. The fighters, helicopters, ships and submarines of the fleet will begin enforcing the blockade Friday noon, London time (7 A.M. New York time).

Any attempt by Argentine ships or planes to challenge the blockade could touch off a full-scale conflict, as could British landings in the Falklands, which are still expected this weekend.

British officials were waiting anxiously but without much hope for the Argentine junta's response to Mr. Haig's proposals. It has been reported from Washington and is generally believed in political circles here that Mrs. Thatcher agreed to delay any new military action for three days, ending Friday, to give the junta time to weigh the proposals. She challenged President Leopoldo Galtieri to accept the proposals, although the British have not yet done so.

"There can be no doubt where the intransigence lies in this matter," the Prime Minister said. "The key to peace is in the hands of the Argentine Government. The responsibility is theirs."

According to Foreign Office sources,



A newsstand on Fleet Street in London displaying the latest headlines concerning negotiations with Argentina in the Falkland Islands crisis.

Britain would continue to seek a negotiated settlement even after fighting broke out in or around the Falklands, possibly through the United Nations. But Mrs. Thatcher told the Labor Party, which has called for greater United Nations involvement now, that the time was not ripe.

She said the Secretary General, Ja-

vier Pérez de Cuellar, still wanted to wait until Mr. Haig's initiative had run its course.

Michael Foot, the opposition leader, again clashed with the Prime Minister, shouting defiantly that she must "try and try and try again to reach a peaceful settlement." She accused him of inconsistently supporting the dispatch of

the task force while arguing that it should not be sent into action.

"It would be highly dangerous to bluff in that way," she said.

James Callaghan, who is the former Labor Prime Minister, was more supportive of his successor. But he urged her to rely on the aerial and maritime blockade to wear down the isolated Argentine garrison in the Falklands rather than attempt "a frontal assault," which he said could be bloody.

Long, Bloody Campaigns Feared

The commander of the British naval task force, Rear Adm. John F. Woodward, issued a similar warning in an interview published in today's newspapers. Admiral Woodward, who earlier this week predicted an easy victory, said today that he did not view himself as a "hawk-eyed, sharp-nosed hard military man" leading a battle fleet into the annals of history.

"I am not in any doubt," he said, "that, unless people say 'let's stop,' it will be a long and bloody campaign and in my mind, a absolutely fundamental for us to try to avoid it."

Reports from the fleet said that he intended to station warships in a circle around the islands, perhaps 50 or more miles offshore. Other ships would be assigned to protect the aircraft carriers Hermes and Invincible and the supply ships. The carriers' Harrier jump jets would be used for aerial patrols and the three nuclear-powered submarines for patrols along the perimeter of the blockade zone.

The Ministry of Defense has said that it will "close down" the air strip at Stanley in the Falklands and has threatened to destroy any planes found there, raising the possibility of a strike carried out by Vulcan bombers from Ascension Island.

125,000 Square Miles Affected

Enforcing the blockade within the circular zone of 125,000 square miles around the Falklands will not be easy, and the weather has been difficult as the Southern Hemisphere winter approaches.

As the fleet moved into position, British and foreign diplomats here said they had no reason to be optimistic that Argentina was moving toward acceptance of the Haig proposals. They said the absence of a guarantee of ultimate Argentine sovereignty appeared to constitute a condition that the junta would accept only at its own peril.

As for Britain's reaction, Mrs. Thatcher said Mr. Haig's new proposals would have to be evaluated in terms of the requirements of Parliament. On an earlier occasion, the British Government said Mr. Haig's ideas had failed to meet those requirements.

Officials ascribed no great significance to the change, but it might well have been intended to leave the impression that Argentina, not Britain, was responsible for any breakdown in negotiations.

U.S. Says Haig Effort Appears to Fail

Continued From Page A1

added, and Argentina was under increasing pressure to try to break the British blockade. A British naval blockade has stopped ships from resupplying the Argentine troops, and a new total blockade on Friday is to halt all air flights to the islands.

Major Landing Expected

With the British flotilla believed poised to attack Argentine positions on the Falkland Islands and a major landing of British troops expected to follow, Administration officials said the only way to avert a clash was for Argentina to accept the American proposals for a solution. They said that if Argentina did so, the British would agree to allow time for further diplomatic discussions.

But the Argentine junta is refusing to accept the Haig formula and is publicly saying it needs further clarifications. This was viewed here as an effort by Argentina to buy time, but Washington did not believe there was any time left for additional haggling.

After Mr. Haig briefed President Reagan on the diplomatic situation this morning, the White House and State Department issued identical statements:

"The situation remains very serious," they said. "There is no movement, and there is very little basis for optimism."

In the month that Mr. Haig has been seeking a diplomatic solution to the Falklands dispute, this was the first time that the United States had publicly characterized the effort in such negative terms.

Mr. Haig remained in touch with both the Argentines and the British, said

Dean Fischer, the State Department spokesman. He repeated that the Secretary was ready to fly to London or Buenos Aires if needed.

The Argentine news agency, Telam, reported from Buenos Aires that Argentina told Mr. Haig today "that his latest peace proposal on the Malvinas does not satisfy fundamental aspects and requires several clarifications." Malvinas is the Argentine name for the disputed islands.

The agency added that Foreign Minister Nicanor Costa Méndez, who flew from Washington to New York today, had written the Argentine reply and had given it to Ambassador Esteban Takacs to deliver to Thomas O. Enders, the Assistant Secretary of State for Inter-American Affairs.

The State Department, while not commenting specifically on the Telam report, confirmed that Mr. Takacs had called on Mr. Enders today.

Argentina Wants Guarantee

The main problem, officials said, was that Argentina was insisting on being guaranteed in advance that any negotiations on the ultimate status of the Falklands would result in acceptance of Argentina's longstanding claim of sovereignty over the islands.

Mr. Haig's proposals were said to call for the withdrawal of the Argentine troops that have occupied the islands since April 2, the end of British threats to retaliate with force and presence of Americans on the islands to guarantee the withdrawal.

The proposals include a brief period of British administration, to be followed by a joint administration in which the Argentines could play a role. There would then be negotiations on the islands' status in which the desires of the 1,800 inhabitants would be taken into account.

Before Mr. Haig briefed the House Foreign Affairs Committee and the House leadership today, the committee approved a resolution that called on the Administration to provide "full diplomatic support" to Britain if there is no diplomatic solution.

No Administration Objections

The resolution was sponsored by Representative Stephen J. Solarz, Democrat of Brooklyn, who said he had spoken to Administration officials on Wednesday about the resolution and had gained "the impression that there would be no Administration objections to its consideration at this time."

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U.S. Says Haig Effort Seems to Fail And Falklands Fighting Is Likely

By BERNARD GWERTZMAN

Special to The New York Times

WASHINGTON, April 29 — Administration officials said today that Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.'s diplomatic efforts had apparently failed to produce a solution in the Falklands crisis. They said heavy fighting between Argentina and Britain was likely to begin in the next day or so unless there was an unexpected development.

Mr. Haig, in a closed-door briefing for

the House Foreign Affairs Committee today, said that he had not completely given up hope for a diplomatic solution but that there was little chance that fighting over the Falkland Islands could be averted.

According to several participants in the meeting, Mr. Haig added that once it became apparent there was no longer a plausible prospect for a negotiated settlement, the Administration would publicly make it clear that it stood with Britain in the crisis. He left open the possibility that, even if fighting began, there might still be an opportunity for a diplomatic solution.

The Secretary said the United States agreed with Britain that Argentine "aggression" in occupying the islands could not be rewarded, the participants reported. He also said that as of late today Buenos Aires was still insisting on recognition of Argentine sovereignty over the islands. Mr. Haig has proposed that the question of sovereignty be left for future negotiations.

The participants in the meeting said the Secretary had reported that both the British and Argentines were maneuvering for the start of hostilities. The Royal Navy, having come so far, was not going to stop before capturing the islands, he said.

The Argentine troops on the Falklands were running out of supplies, he

Continued on Page A8, Column 1

"All the News
That's Fit to Print"

The New York Times

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—NEW YORK, FRIDAY, APRIL 30, 1982—

ARGENTINA IMPOSES ITS OWN BLOCKADE AROUND FALKLANDS

BEATS BRITAIN'S DEADLINE

Junta's Measure Takes Effect on the Eve of the Air-Sea Ban Today by London

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, April 29 — Argentine's military junta said tonight that any British ship or plane found within 200 miles of the Falklands would be regarded as hostile and dealt with "accordingly."

The announcement, which said the step was effective at once, was in response to Britain's declaration of a sea and air blockade of the islands beginning at 7 A.M. Friday, New York time.

Much of the British battle fleet was already believed to be within the 200-mile zone. Some reports placed it about 100 miles northeast of Stanley, the capital of the Falklands. It was not immediately clear whether Argentina was planning to try to enforce its declaration.

'At Any Moment'

Brig. Gen. Mario Benjamin Méndez, the Argentine military Governor of the Falklands, said he expected the British fleet to attack "at any moment."

The official Argentine press agency quoted the general as saying that troops on the island had been placed on "total alert" — an increased state of readiness from the alerts declared earlier in the week as the British fleet approached.

At the same time, the Argentine Government asked the United States for clarification of the latest peace plan sent to both sides by Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.

An Effort to Buy Time

Some Argentine officials and Western diplomats described the request as an effort to buy time and hold off a British assault.

In London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher said at an emergency session of Parliament that "the key to peace is in the hands of the Argentine Government." She rejected for the time being opposition demands that she seek a solution to the crisis in the United Nations or the International Court of Justice. [Page A9.]

While Argentina sought clarification of the United States plan through its embassy in Washington, officials here continued to insist that the junta would not retreat from its demand for guaranteed sovereignty over the Falklands in any negotiated solution.

The United States plan skirts the issue of sovereignty by calling for the joint administration of the Falklands after the withdrawal of Argentine forces and the end to British military threats.

The junta said its blockade applied to all British ships and planes found within



Soldiers in convey on the way to strengthen Argentina's coastal defenses against possible British attack.

Crisis in the Falklands: Argentine Soldiers on 'Total Alert'

Argentina Decrees Blockade Of Its Own on the Falklands

Continued From Page A1

300 miles of the dependency of the Falklands as well as the Falklands themselves.

Argentine troops seized the dependencies of South Georgia and South Sandwich in taking over the Falklands on April 2. British forces recaptured South Georgia on Sunday and Monday.

Senior Argentine military sources said Argentina had air superiority over the islands from mainland air bases and an airfield on the Falklands.

Before the Argentine announcement, military officials here said the British blockade was "psychological warfare" aimed at undermining the confidence of the Argentine public.

'A Minimum of Good Will'

Maj. Gen. Alfredo St. Juan, the Argentine Interior Minister, told reporters this morning that the United States plan had "some elements that could be useful."

"We are not at the point of no return," he said, adding that a peaceful solution required "a minimum of goodwill" by Britain.

But he insisted that "in no way could we accept a proposal that does not not have as a special condition the recognition of our sovereignty."

Along Argentina's southern coast, in cities such as Comodoro Rivadavia, Rio Grande and Rio Gallegos, students have been crawling under desks at schools during air defense drills. Nightly blockades have begun and the crews of commercial planes are under orders to keep window curtains closed while landing.

Foreign Reporters Ousted

All foreign correspondents were ordered out of the southern half of the country by noon today. There were reports that residents were fleeing the area, but these were vehemently denied by officials here.

In Buenos Aires, where 40 percent of the country's 28 million people live, the atmosphere was gloom, but there were few signs that war might be near.

Schoolchildren have been given air defense instructions. Television and radio broadcasts have been interrupted with long silences during practice alerts.

The Argentine Government announced this week that draft dodgers would be subject to severe penalties, including death, if they did not report within five days of their scheduled call-up date.

The Government has urged citizens not to hoard supplies or withdraw savings from banks. A Government study reportedly shows that food sales have increased 20 percent since the crisis began, and the rise is attributed to hoarding.

Shoppers in many neighborhoods complained today that storekeepers were limiting sales of sugar, flour and meat.

The Economy Minister, Roberto Alemann, said in an interview Wednesday that rationing had not been imposed. But storekeepers said the police had been enforcing informal guidelines by making suggestions that they were afraid to violate.

An association representing trucking companies exhorted its members today "to put all the trucks that are necessary at the disposition of the armed forces."

A Show of Patriotism

In a show of patriotism, women have been gathering in recent afternoons in the Plaza de la Republica. By a high obelisk that commemorates the founding of Buenos Aires, they they knit sweaters for the Argentine troops deployed on the cold, wind-swept islands.

Morale was boosted by the Organization of American States resolution supporting Argentina's claims to sovereignty and calling for a truce. The measure, approved Wednesday at the O.A.S. meeting in Washington, was treated as a victory by the Argentine press and television.

Privately however, officials conceded that the vote offered little that was tangible, such as the economic sanctions against Britain that Argentina had sought.



Argentine soldiers eating in the field during exercises in Argentina. They are preparing for possible military action by the British against the mainland.

Ascension Island: A Vital Bit of Volcanic Rock

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, April 9—The tiny volcanic rock in the South Atlantic called Ascension Island is expected to play a vital role in the Falklands crisis as a staging point for British ships and planes.

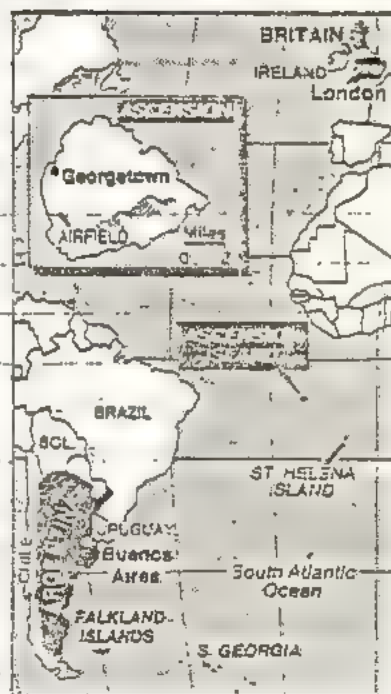
Ascension, like the Falkland Islands, is a remnant of the British empire. It is now a dependency of St. Helena, the island where Napoleon lived in exile after his defeat at Waterloo and where he died in 1821. With a territory of 34 square miles and a population of about 1,400, it is best known, perhaps, for its colonies of sea turtles.

The island is familiar to Americans who follow the space program as the base for a satellite tracking station, and it is also the site of major communications relay installations. Several hundred Americans live there, operating an Air Force base, built in 1942, which Britain retains the right to use in cases of emergency.

Its importance to Britain at this moment is its location, almost exactly halfway between England and the Falklands. It is more than 3,000 miles from the potential combat zone, but this country has no other feasible support base near the Falklands.

Strict Security Imposed

The authorities on Ascension have imposed strict security regulations since the Argentines seized the Falklands a week ago, and local people have



The New York Times / April 10, 1982

Airlift is using Ascension base.

been forbidden to approach the air base. The island's administrator, Bernard Pouncefort, has asked inhabitants to be discreet in what they say in their letters and telephone calls.

"The Falkland Islands situation is a very grave one," he wrote in the weekly news sheet, the *Islander*. "Let us not make it even more hazardous by careless talk."

But residents have told of frenetic activity on the island in the last three or four days, with C-130 Hercules transport planes arriving constantly from Britain, ferrying in supplies and ammunition.

Jumbo jets chartered from British Airways are expected to join in the airlift sometime this weekend, and helicopters, the first ever seen on Ascension, have been shipped to the island and assembled there.

Copters Shuttle Supplies

The helicopters are shuttling back and forth between the air base and the 23,600-ton fleet replenishment ship *Fort Austin* in the bay.

Ships in the British flotilla now steaming toward the Falklands will be resupplied as they pass Ascension. If Britain and Argentina go to war, supplies and reinforcements could be fed to British forces from Ascension by sea or by air. The Hercules transports would need to be refueled in the air, however, unless the landing strip at Port Stanley had been retaken.

Residents reported that a large number of British officers have arrived in recent days to supervise round-the-clock preparations.

Falkland Issue Imperils Recovery, British Fear

By STEVEN RATTNER

Special to The New York Times

LONDON, April 9 — British economists and Government officials are concerned that the confrontation with Argentina over the Falkland Islands may damage Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's economic strategy just as it is beginning to show results.

The concerns, which initially focused on the added military outlays, have broadened as the value of the pound has fallen, the scope of the economic sanctions has become clear and Mrs. Thatcher's political difficulties have persisted.

"We're living on the precipice," said Gavyn Davies, chief domestic economist at Simon & Coates, a stock brokerage. "It could get extremely serious very quickly, but it hasn't as yet gotten that serious."

Specifically, the fear is that the added strain of the unforeseen expenditures and a possible crisis of political authority might upset the delicate balance of economic forces that has been achieved over the past two years by the Conservative Party's austerity policies.

For the economic news lately has been good. Inflation has been dropping steadily, productivity jumped sharply last year and the economy has

resumed expansion, raising the hope of an end to mounting unemployment. Last Monday, for example, the Financial Times's Monthly Survey of Business Opinion reported that "a higher balance of those surveyed were optimistic about the future than at any time since the start of the recession."

To be sure, few experts are willing to predict that the Falkland problem will doom Mrs. Thatcher's program. But to all appearances, that trend toward optimism has been dealt a blow.

The crisis occurred last Friday, when Argentine troops occupied the archipelago in the South Atlantic. The most direct impact has been added military spending. Some 30 ships have been dispatched to the area, along with tons of supplies and equipment, much of it by an enormous airlift to Ascension Island. Several private ships have been requisitioned by the Royal Navy, and appropriate fees must be paid to the owners.

The Government has refused to provide any cost estimates, but Keith Speed, a former Navy minister dismissed by Mrs. Thatcher, said the other day that the cost of sending the convoy could be \$235 million to \$350 million, which most budget experts consider a manageable sum. But by comparison, the British defense

Continued on Page 33

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1982

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Falkland Issue Imperils a Recovery, British Fear

Continued From First Business Page

budget totals only \$21 billion this year. Should a battle begin or a lengthy blockade prove necessary, the costs would grow, almost without limit.

Commitment to Budget Goals

For its part, the Government has insisted that the new costs will not be allowed to derail its budget strategy of gradually reducing the amount of Government borrowing, from \$18.4 billion in the past fiscal year to \$16.6 billion in the year that began April 1. According to Government officials, the new costs would be met by other means, such as new taxes or further cuts in spending.

If the cost proves substantial and if no offsetting revenue surprises occur, said Leon Brittan, chief secretary to the Treasury, "We will have to meet other needs expenditure programs or

taxation — whatever combination is required — to ensure that the consequence is not to damage our economic strategy."

A modest threat to the economic strategy has also been posed by the sanctions placed on Argentina. The mutual trade embargoes set by the two countries have eliminated exports and imports of about \$25 million a year, a modest loss. But the freeze on Argentine assets here has put at risk about \$250 million of British assets in Argentina and, more importantly, \$3 billion in outstanding loans to Argentina by British banks worldwide.

Questions About the Pound

Perhaps more worrisome to many economists here has been the drop in the value of the pound on foreign exchange markets, about 1 percent last week, to its lowest level against the

dollar since 1977. A lower pound means more expensive imports and a higher inflation rate. Each 10 percent fall in the pound's value raises the retail price index in Britain by an estimated 2.5 percent.

Most dealers attributed the drop in the pound to nervousness, which was also reflected this week in two particularly severe declines in stock market prices and a jump in short-term interest rates.

By the end of the week, the fall of the pound appeared to have abated, but the nervousness remained. Dealers recalled the Suez crisis of 1956, when the pound began to fall and Britain was unable to borrow the foreign exchange needed to support it.

"Sterling crises have been known to bring down governments," said one banker.

He noted that for the first time, Britain was facing a military confrontation without exchange controls to provide a measure of protection for its currency. At the same time, the Bank of England has given indications that it is extremely reluctant to mount a sustained effort to hold the pound's value.

By far the most difficult development to measure is the damage to Mrs. Thatcher's political standing. Even if the Prime Minister remains, the erosion of her political influence would be substantial enough to affect her ability to press on with the economic strategy.

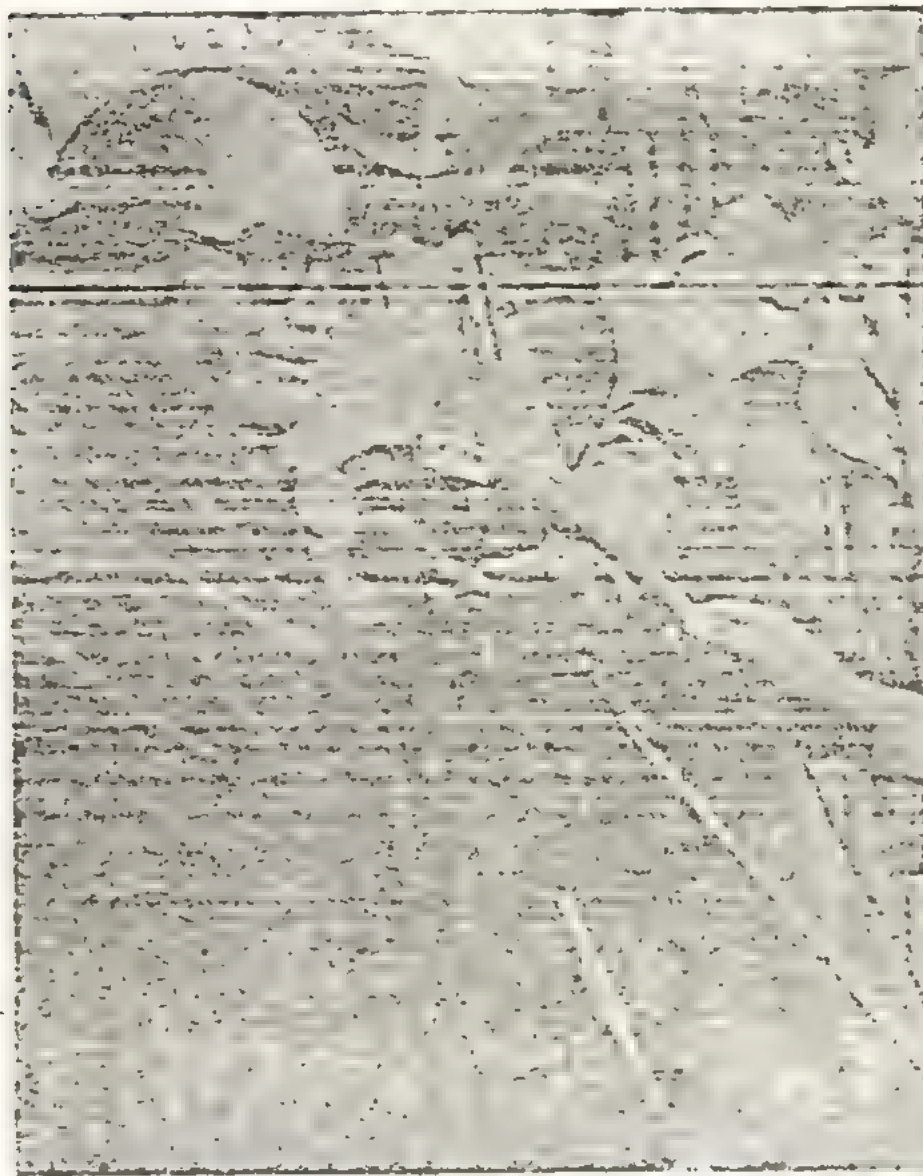
"The financial cost of a change of political leadership and direction would be considerable," said The Times of London last week.

W.C. 10/9/37



Associated Press

British troops board the requisitioned British luxury liner Canberra in Southampton Thursday. It set out on a backup for the Royal Navy tank force en route to the Falklands.



Argentinian hopes for peace

Argentine Nobel Peace Prize winner Adolfo Perez Esquivel talks to reporters Friday in front of the British Embassy in Washington, where he met with Sir Nicholas Henderson, British ambassador, to discuss his hopes for a peaceful settlement of the Falkland Islands dispute. Perez Esquivel has been on a 10-day hunger strike to protest British rule in the islands.

Isle invaders

Waging a video war for Britain's honor

Associated Press

NEW YORK — If there is a silver lining in every cloud, a British firm may have found it in the one hanging over the Falkland Islands.

A video game that invites armchair sailors to sink the Argentine fleet as it sails on "the defenseless Falkland Islands" is being beamed by British Telecom's Prestel service to 16,000 subscribers in Britain, the United States and other nations.

"You are the commander of the HMS Mercury 332, a British submarine in the South Atlantic," the game, called "Obliterate," tells home and office subscribers. "You suddenly spot the Argentine fleet steaming toward the defenseless Falkland Islands. The honor of the nation is in your hands. You must succeed."

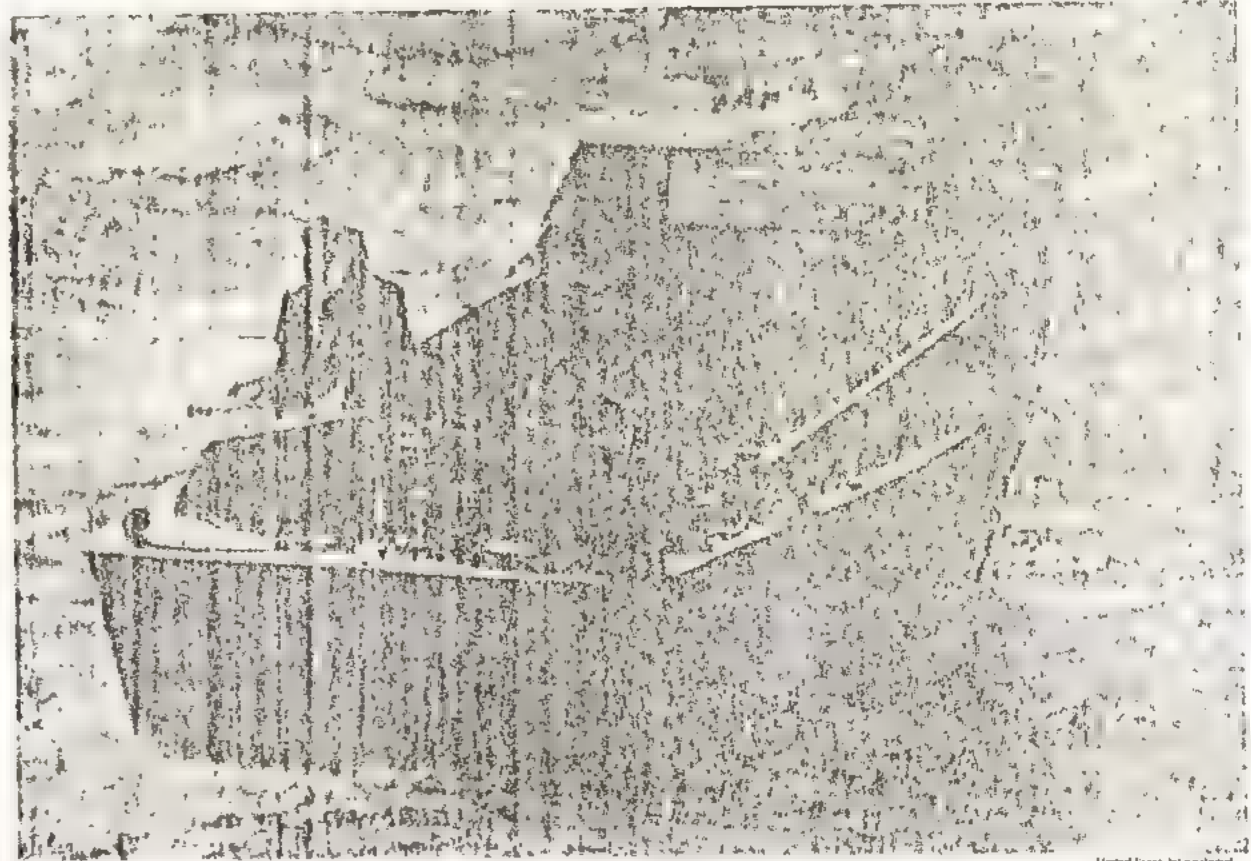
The flagship of the Argentine navy moves across the screen. The player uses a typewriter-like keyboard to estimate the distance and launches a torpedo.

A direct hit makes the flagship explode and produces the message, "Congratulations, Horatio would be proud of you."

Horatio Nelson defeated the combined French and Spanish navies off Cape Trafalgar in 1805 and died a hero in the battle after signaling the fleet: "England expects every man will do his duty."

The Prestel service provides subscribers in Britain, the United States, Germany, Australia and the Netherlands with electronic versions of the Wall Street Journal, Merrill Lynch and Co.'s weekly newsletter, Newsweek magazine and other financial, trade, travel and entertainment information.

The Falkland Islands, which Britain has ruled since 1833, were invaded April 2 by Argentina. Britain has dispatched an armada to retake the islands and has threatened to sink Argentine ships that come within 200 miles of the islands starting Monday morning.



Argentine troops patrol the waters around the occupied Falkland this week while a British fleet heads for the islands.

Argentine troops patrol the waters around the occupied Falkland this week while a British fleet heads for the islands.

Christians hold Good Friday rites

Associated Press

Christians around the world observed Good Friday yesterday in solemn ceremonies from the Philippines in Poland, the Vatican to Jerusalem, where pilgrims gathered to mourn the death of Jesus on Calvary nearly 2,000 years ago.

The land of Christ's birth, death and resurrection has been caught up in sporadic violence in recent months. Israeli soldiers watched from rooftops and accompanied the faithful along Christ's traditional path through the narrow alleyways of the Via Dolorosa to the church built over Calvary.

The faithful poured through the West Bank town of Bethlehem all week despite the unrest, and government officials said 100,000 visitors were expected in the Holy Land for the holidays.

Inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre, the site where tradition holds that Christ was nailed to the cross, anointed and buried, men and women sobbed as they remembered the holiest moments in Christianity.

Some expressed disillusionment.

"It brings you closer to Christ spiritually, but I was really disappointed with the shoving and the commercialism," said Wlodek Salvestrini, a seminary student from Iron River, Mich. "It wasn't that prayerful or quiet."

Easter celebrations will end tomorrow with a pontifical Mass of the Resurrection.

In Vatican City, Pope John Paul II heard confessions of 25 worshippers at St. Peter's Basilica, and later removed his shoes and symbols of papal authority as a sign of humility during the Good Friday service — the only day in the Christian year when Mass cannot be said.

Good Friday celebrations at the seat of the Roman Catholic faith included a torchlight procession through Rome's ancient ruins, with the Pope carrying a wooden cross to retrace symbolically Jesus' last steps in Jerusalem.

Streets were jammed with tourists and pilgrims there for the Easter weekend.

The 20,000 faithful who attended the service were searched with metal detectors as they entered St. Peter's, a

security measure instituted at papal appearances after the attempt on John Paul's life May 13 last year.

The bells in Rome's 500 churches were silent and altars bare. The Pope delivered no sermon.

Tens of millions of television viewers in Western Europe, North America, South America and Africa watched the live broadcast of the Pope's walk.

In the Pope's native Poland, where the Easter holiday is of great importance to the overwhelmingly Catholic population, blinding snow whipped through the capital, making travel difficult for thousands hoping to visit relatives. It was the first major holiday without an overnight curfew and a domestic travel ban since martial law was imposed Dec. 13.

In a somber Good Friday address, Archbishop Jozef Glemp warned that many Poles were sinking into a spiritual depression after months of futile hope for an end to martial law.

He said Poles were now beset by fear "of their neighbors, fear of the authorities, fear of the empty shop, fear of the workplace, fear of tomorrow and fear of himself."

"I say to my beloved countrymen, those who are free and those who are beyond liberty, those who work and those who are beyond work, those inside the country and outside the country, I wish you the strength of Resurrection..."

Last year, Poles saw an unprecedented number of religious programs on state-run television which broadcast films of John Paul II at the stations of the cross. This year, Polish radio and television carried no religious programs.

In the Philippines, thousands of residents and tourists gathered in San Fernando to watch the bell ringer in memory of Jesus' suffering.

The ritual, which has become a Philippine tourist attraction, climaxed in two men being walked to heavy wooden crosses they had dragged to the outskirts of town.

At least five other people, including two women, were reported to have had themselves nailed to crosses in another town near San Fernando, in nearby Bulacan Province and in a Manila suburb.



Thousands of Christian pilgrims jam the way of the cross

... but the days of glory are recalled

Wick Thimmesch

WASHINGTON — In many states, a professional boxer can be charged with a felonious assault for punching somebody outside the ring. So he must restrain belligerent urges.

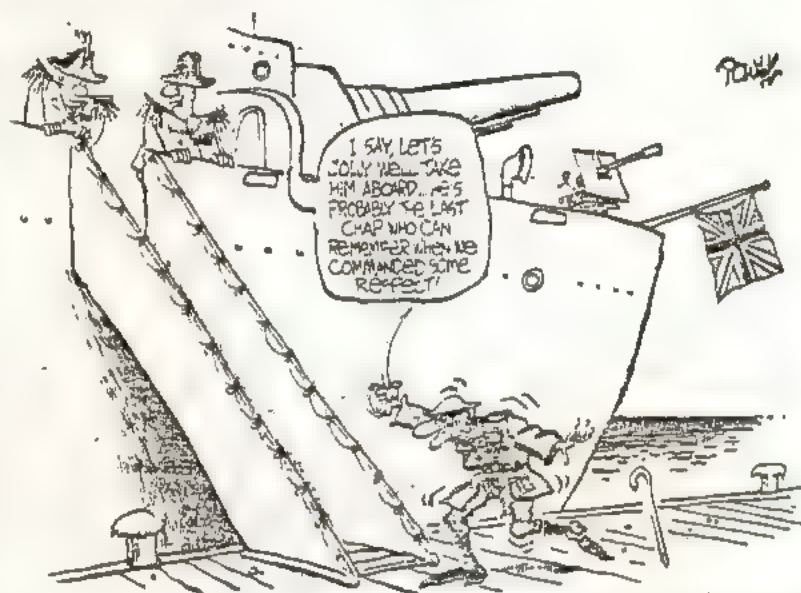
Since World War II, the Superpower have also struggled to avoid confrontation, not to respect international law, but out of fear of unthinkable nuclear war. Third World nations, lacking nuclear weapons, have been the scrappy terriers, safe in the knowledge that the Big Boys wouldn't punish their naughty pups with nuclear assault.

But what to say about the confrontation right out of the 19th century when the faded but proud British met the hot-blooded Argentines? Both nations are displaying a 19th-century brand of nationalism which mutated into wars converting millions of peaceful occupants of that time into military corpses. Shall we remember Napoleon, Waterloo, the Franco-Prussian wars?

Somehow, the British, steeped in false pride, have reached into dim memory of when "... Guardian angels sung this strain: Britannia rules the waves; Britons never will be defeated." Could today's Lord Throttlemoans have recalled Alfred Mahan's grand assertions of 100 years ago about sea power — "Those far distant, storm-beaten ships..." which could have stymied any army?

British pride was grievously offended by the Argentine invasion of the miserable Falkland Islands where 1,800 British sort of people and 600,000 sheep in virtually constant rain and cold. So now two-thirds of the once-vaunted British fleet steams at 18 knots toward the territory they regard as violated by the equally proud Argentines who raise centuries-old hurts about their possession, the "Malvinas."

Indeed, Queen Elizabeth II's 22-year-old son, Prince Andrew, gives



the thumbs-up sign, as though the Huns were again bombing London, and prepares for combat duty as a helicopter pilot aboard the aircraft carrier, *Invincible*, the fleet's flagship. It can't be that invincible because the British have already sold it to Australia.

The Argentines must have underestimated British ancient memory of a once-golden epoch when Britannia did rule the waves. Who would have anticipated, in 1982, an Englishman demanding recapture of the Falklands because its sheepherders and kelp fishermen are of "our bloodstock"? Today's Great Britain is a melting pot of blacks, browns, Asians, Arabs, and older strains of Celts and Anglo-Saxons. It is far from being a white man's kingdom.

The Argentine stupidity was just too outrageous for the oft-trampled pride of the British. The press screamed, "Shamed!" and "We MUST Defend Them!" and even, "War!"

Lord Wigg complained in Parliament that, "We have spent 111 billion pounds on defense since the edge of

the last war and we can't knock the skin off a rice pudding."

Sir Edward DuCann, a Conservative Party leader, brushed away any chatter about the 9,000 miles of sea between his England and the conquered Falklands. "I don't remember the Duke of Wellington whining about Torres Vedras," he declared, recalling one of the peninsular wars.

"One of the most critical moments in the history of this country since the war," cried another Conservative, Patrick Cormack, in warning that Britain must not shirk from the "distasteful" use of force, if need be.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, not to be outdone by any freshly minted patriot, declared she has "supreme confidence in the British fleet," and invoked the 19th-century's Queen Victoria, who once proclaimed: "Failure — the possibilities do not exist."

Verily, even the names of the ships dispatched by the British Crown ring with sounds of glory and valor. The *Invincible* leads the fleet. The *Fear-*

less is ready to perform its mission as an amphibious assault ship. The nuclear-powered submarine *Superb* is eager to play its hunter-killer role. Already the icemaker, *Endurance*, with its 40 Royal Marines aboard, demonstrated its ability to rescue 14 British scientists from harm by Argentine forces on ice-covered South Georgia.

Let no one think that economic interests fired these two nations into confrontation. The sheep make good meat, true, but not enough to fight a war over. And there has been no oil discovered off the Falkland Islands, despite press reports to the contrary. No, this is an old-fashioned fight over honor.

Fortunately, neither the British Armada nor the feisty Argentinians have nuclear weapons to brandish. And while Great Britain is engaged in a great show of the colors and Latin macho permeates Argentina over the prospect of war with the Brits, there are diplomats on both sides taking a cooler view. The Argentine side must now realize that Great Britain means business, and their counterparts must be thinking, how in the hell did we get into this mess?

If there ever was a modern example of how foolish 19th-century wars were, we have it relived now in the Argentine-British confrontation. And this comes at a time when most of the civilized world is worried sick over the danger of nuclear war from the Big Boys of the late 20th century. Six nations have detonated a nuclear device, Israel and South Africa won't admit to it, but they probably have nuclear weapons, too, so that makes eight nations who could begin the incineration of mankind.

Meanwhile, the British fleet steams on, and the Argentines wave banners and exult in their military conquest of the islands which they regard as legitimately theirs and "part of the national patrimony."

Tradition

To British, it's not a joke...

By Andy Rooney

The American view of what the average Englishman is like has been largely shaped by the caricatures of Englishmen in Hollywood movies. The average Englishman is not Richard Burton, Arthur Treacher, Sir Laurence Olivier or Alec Guinness.

Great Britain may not be as great as she once was, but any nation ought to think twice before picking a fight with the British. Their soldiers and sailors are among the toughest, best-trained in the world.

There is no doubt the British are looking for a fight. They've been pushed around, mostly downhill, ever since World War II and they're sick and tired of it. When the Argentine government took the Falkland Islands, which the British consider to be rightfully theirs, the opportunity for a fight presented itself and it appears as though the British are going to try to make the most of it.

The British fleet is steaming toward the Falklands now and while it's hard to believe it will come to an actual naval battle, it would be a mistake for anyone to think the British are bluffing. They just don't have that much to lose any longer, and someone who doesn't have anything to lose makes a very dangerous enemy. They're going to do what they have to do to take back the Falkland Islands. It seems likely that they'll do it with a parachute drop mounted from their battleships. This is a pure guess on my part.

The joke going around the television network news offices these days is about which network will get the television rights to the war in the Falklands. If the war between Great Britain and Argentina is a ratings success, the joke continues, the other

two networks will probably want to produce a sequel war of their own next season. If all the wars do well, it might even lead to one decisive Super War to be televised during prime time next fall.

This Falkland Island episode is no joke to the British. They recall their glory days when the sun never set on the British Empire with fond memory. Their history books are filled with the deeds of their heroes and the drama of their victories. In the Falkland Islands, they see a chance to add chapters to such naval triumphs as one North Sea battle that began Christmas-Eve, 1943:

"As the great silver length of the Scharnhorst sprang into view," wrote historian Donald Macintyre, "the 14-inch guns of The Duke of York erupted into action. A shell hit the German battle cruiser on her starboard bow."

Closing to within ten miles, the great Duke of York dumped shell after shell into the pride of Hitler's Navy. The German commander radioed his base that he would fight to the last shell.

The British destroyers HMS Belfast and HMS Jamaica moved in for the kill, emptying their torpedo tubes into the once-invincible Scharnhorst.

"A dense cloud of smoke, a dull glow at its heart, was all that could be seen of the Scharnhorst now," the historian wrote.

British sailors moved in among the debris in a gallant gesture to save the survivors but only 36 German sailors of a crew of 2,000 were rescued. It was a fatal blow to Adolf Hitler's dream of victory over His Majesty's Royal Navy.

And that's the kind of story the British dream of reading again.

Inside: Latest scores, lotteries and race results

The Philadelphia Inquirer

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6 CENTS The Philadelphia Inquirer

Saturday, April 10, 1982

20 CENTS

With smiles and tears, Britons bid Canberra farewell

By Jane P. Shoemaker
Special Staff Writer

SOUTHAMPTON, England — The send-off began well enough, with flags held high, cheers pushed out and voices strong for the traditional "Hip, hip, hooray."

"It doesn't do them any good to see us here in tears," said Mandy Ashbridge as the ship carrying her husband of 18 years cast off its gangways and prepared to sail. "We're all doing what we have to do, and I'm proud."

It was in the last that kind of farewell last night as the ship Canberra carried 2,000 marine commandos and paratroopers off to join the British fleet going to defend the Falkland Islands.

But emotions are not easily held in check when sons and husbands and

brothers and fathers are waving from the decks of a ship that is slipping into the darkness and may not return for months.

"Wave to Daddy! Wave to Daddy!" one sobbing young woman said to the three tearful young children who clung to her side.

Tracy Risher, 17 and married for just two weeks, and Sharon Morris, 19 and engaged, cried on each other's shoulders as the Canberra headed toward the open sea.

Until this week and the mobilization of British forces in response to Argentina's invasion of the Falklands, this was a scene that the British had long since pushed back into memory. The pain of recalling the last such send-off was almost too much for May Richard to bear. It was

30 years ago that she stood at a dock like this one and waved to her husband as he left for Burma.

"It weren't nothing like this," said Mrs. Richard, whose eyes searched for her grandson in the lines of olive-drab uniforms that lined the ship's deck. "We all carried gas masks, you know. There was all that bombing."

When Mrs. Richard was a young mother during World War II, the nation was united in its resolve to defeat Germany and to protect its very existence. This time, her grandson was going off to defend a tiny group of islands 8,000 miles away.

"These young men are excited because they don't know what they face," she said, fidgeting her hands. "If (See CANBERRA on 7A)



The cruise ship Canberra before its conversion for military duty in the Falklands

On the quay: Troops, tears, memories of another war

CANBERRA from 1-A
They knew that bombing.

The voice cracked and the rest of the sentence wasn't said out loud.

The Southampton docks, 79 miles south of London, normally are bustling with joyful crowds meeting or sending off passengers on cruise ships. Indeed, until three days ago, the Canberra was a cruise ship.

But with the stroke of Queen Elizabeth's pen, it was requisitioned for military use. It was quick and was quickly converted into a troop carrier.

The swimming pool was covered and turned into a helicopter landing pad as was the open-air theater where nightclub performers had entertained in the fresh sea air. The dock chairs — all 1,000 of them — were hauled to shore to make room for military supplies and anti-tank guns.

On Thursday the marines and paratroopers boarded. They used maps provided to cruise passengers to try to find their berths. Many were still confused yesterday, asking for directions as they stood amidships trying to figure out where they had been.

And all day yesterday, marines lined up along gangways, forming human conveyors belts that passed cases of food and drink from shore to ship.

At noon, tins of coffee baking powder, baked beans and beer were being hoisted from arm to arm and finally into the holds. At 1 p.m., the hold lightened with cartons of Smith's Crisps (potato chips) and cream crackers. The heavy load — cases of whisky — was being handled by a forklift truck.

At 2 p.m. came cases of honey and Knorr's soup. The pickles, mush-

rooms and macaroni went aboard at 1 p.m. followed by the Ritz crackers. Deckhand Norman instant mashed potatoes. With what breakfast cereal and Kellogg's cereals.

"The Falklands are British territory so I am in a position to help. I will," said John Munnally, the Canberra's poetry club. "I promise you, these men will have the finest sweets they have ever eaten."

With only an hour to go before the 8 p.m. sailing, the shore-bound marines were still at work putting in the final stocks of the heater pin, Newcastle Brown Ale and champagne juice imported from Swaziland.

Not confident that the light refreshment would be to his son's liking, George Perry stood on the bulk head and, to the cheers of the troops on the deck far above him, tossed two cans of Heinekken Lager to his 19-year-old son. One was caught handily but

the other made a graceful arc and splashed into the sea.

"If I was a bit younger, I'd be up there with him," said Perry, 47, who spent 22 years in the Royal Navy.

Before their son boarded the Canberra, George and Sheila Perry had dined with him in a warehouse-turned-ten room and asked how he felt about the mission to the South Atlantic.

"His exact words were, 'We're looking forward to it, but we're not.'"

That seemed, indeed, to be the feeling of many of those both aboard the troop carrier and on shore. There is strong sentiment that Argentina's affront to British pride with the invasion of the Falklands last week must be answered, but there is an equal reluctance to become involved in a war after so many years of relative calm.

"We've had all these troubles in

Northern Ireland, but that's different," said Jim Macaul 21, one of only 10 women among the former cruise ship's 500-person crew. She had been a cocktail waitress but for this trip she will be tending the rooms of British officers. There is a strict ban, she said, on "socializing" with the marines at sea.

One of the marines interviewed, Stephen Burns, enlisted a year ago at the age of 17. At 18, he is going into what his mother fears will be full-scale war.

While her sense of British pride is strong, she said she hopes for a diplomatic solution.

"I told him, 'I hope it will be all over by the time you get there,' she said yesterday shortly before the ship pulled out. But she was not prepared, she said, for her son's reply: "I hope it isn't."

They're cashing in on Falklands crisis

Associated Press

WINCHESTER, England — Demand and prices for British postage stamps of the Falkland Islands have soared since Argentina seized the colony last week, stamp dealers have said.

Winchester stamp dealer Mark Rendall said Thursday that he sold his entire stock of 400 modern sets from the South Atlantic Islands to a local collector for £3,000 (\$5,250) and has only a few early issues left.

"They would have fetched only £100 (\$175) under normal circumstances," he said.

W.1 10/11/82

Weather

Today—Mostly sunny, high 64-68, low tonight 33-43. The chance of rain is near 10 percent through tonight. Sunday—Chance of s.m. or wet snow, high in the 60s. Yesterday—Moon AQF 30; temp. range: 45-54. Details on Page B2.

105th Year •••• No. 126

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1982, The Washington Post Company

Argentines Receive Haig Amid Hints of Anger at U.S. Role

Britain Continues Naval Force Buildup

By Leonard Dussane Jr.
Washington Post Foreign Service

LONDON, April 9.—The buildup of the big British naval task force sailing to the South Atlantic in the Falkland Islands crisis continued today, as the rest of Britain began the traditional long Easter weekend waiting for what may happen Monday, when the first hostilities have been threatened.

Diplomatic sources here said it was uncertain how much could be accomplished before then by U.S. Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr.'s mission to mediate a peaceful Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands in return for a cease-fire promise by Britain on Argentina's sovereignty claim.

Haig's five hours of talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher last night left alive a number of possibilities for a diplomatic solution as he flew today from here to Buenos Aires, the sources said.

But they were unwilling to express either optimism or pessimism about the prospects of avoiding war between Britain and Argentina.

They suggested that Britain still would be willing to settle for some form of British administration rather than continuing sovereignty over the Falklands, provided that Argentines withdraw its forces first and then a sovereignty settlement were acceptable to the 1,800 residents of the islands. The sources said it is about leave Haig room for maneuver in his talks with the military government of Argentine President Leopoldo Galtieri.

Haig, while en route to Buenos Aires, conferred by telephone with President Reagan, who was at the Barbados residence of actress Candice Bergen, Washington Post staff writer Lou Cannon reported. The call, placed at 5:45 p.m. Barbados time, lasted for five minutes.

An announcement by the White House press office said that the president, who is vacationing in Barbados through Sunday, will continue to receive written reports from Haig's party during the day on Saturday.

Reagan is scheduled to make a five-minute radio address to the American people on Saturday, but aides said late Friday that his re-

See BRITAIN, A9, Col. 1

Britain Continues Buildup of Naval Force

BRITAIN, From A1

marks will focus on aid for Caribbean nations rather than on the situation in the Falklands.]

Meanwhile, the requisitioned British luxury liner *Carlotta*, with about 2,000 Marine commandos and Army paratroopers and their equipment aboard, sailed this evening from Southampton. Since it docked there Wednesday after a world cruise with 1,600 passengers, the 45,000-ton P&O Line ship has been refitted rapidly and provisioned for military transport duty.

The *Carlotta* and a cargo ship that left last night loaded with tanks and other military equipment will be joining 27 British warships already at sea. According to the government, most of them are still a week or two away from the Falklands. They include two aircraft carriers, one assault ship, two light cruisers, five destroyers, five frigates, five landing ships, four fleet oil tankers and three supply ships.

Ahead from the government's official list are several nuclear-powered hunter-killer submarines believed to have arrived in the South Atlantic. Other warships also are being prepared for relief duty with the task force, and more civilian vessels, including oil tankers, have been requisitioned.

Analysts expect the task force to be used primarily for a blockade of the Falklands and possibly the parts of Argentina, which seized the islands off its southern coast last week. They do not expect, at least initially, any British attempt to land troops on the Falklands, where Argentina has built up and fortified an occupation force of about 8,000 troops, compared with the few thousand being transported by the British task force.

A blockade by surface ships would make refueling a serious problem thousands of miles from the nearest British base, according to military analysts.

Britain appears to be depending, at least initially, on the ship-sinking threat of its nuclear-powered submarines, which do not have to surface or refuel. They are believed to be the weapon with

which Britain has threatened to attack any Argentine warship or civilian ship being used for military supply purposes within a 200-mile-radius around the Falklands beginning Monday. Responding to this increased British pressure for an Argentine withdrawal from the Falklands, Galtieri said an attack on an Argentine ship would meet an armed response.

The outcome of Haig's talks in Buenos Aires will be watched closely by Thatcher, who went today to the prime minister's country residence at Chequers. Whether she remains there or meets with senior Cabinet members there "will depend on events," an official said. "Nobody envisions any particular developments for a few days."

Otherwise, outside of the defense and foreign ministries, most of the government will be shut down as usual from today until Tuesday. Banks, businesses and most stores also are closed, and no newspapers are published on Good Friday and Easter Monday here. Parliament is in recess until April 19 unless Thatcher announces an emergency session.

Last night, Foreign Secretary Francis Pym broadcast a special message on the British Broadcasting Corp. World Service to the 1,800 Falkland Islanders, whose safety would be at risk in a British-Argentine battle for the islands. Pym said Britain was doing everything it could to restore their position to normal as soon as possible.

"By that I mean, of course, bring about by peaceful means, if we can, the withdrawal of the Argentine forces who have absolutely no right to be there," Pym said.

In an Easter message on the same "Calling the Falklands" service, which has been increased by the BBC from once to three times a week during the crisis, the archbishop of Canterbury, Robert Runcie, asked the islanders to pray that anger and national pride would not cloud wise judgment in the search for a peaceful settlement.

"The prayers of all our people are with you in these days of crisis and uncertainty," he told the

islanders, who are believed to be still receiving the broadcasts. "You may be far away, but you interest us, your safety and your well-being are at the very heart of our thoughts this Easter week."

Meanwhile, sources here said leaders of the Falkland Islands community have written a letter to the Foreign Office appealing to Britain to evacuate the population before any fighting begins.

[The Foreign Office said Friday night that the International Red Cross had been asked to take "an interest" in the fate of the islands' 1,800 residents, Reuter reported.]

European Community Confirms Ban Of Arms Sales to Buenos Aires

London

BRUSSELS, April 9.—The 10-nation European Community confirmed a ban on arms sales to Argentina today following the seizure of the Falklands, a British diplomatic spokesman said.

Commonly authorized meeting here deferred until Saturday, however, talks on possible further trade sanctions against Argentina.

Some European diplomats have said a full embargo is possible, while others said it could be restricted to the key sectors of meat, other foodstuffs, shoes, textiles and steel.

Political directors from foreign ministries of the community's member nations confirmed during four hours of talks that all supplies of arms and military equipment would be blocked in reprisal for the seizure of the British Falkland Islands colony in the South Atlantic.

Britain has banned arms sales to Buenos Aires, embargoed all imports from Argentina and suspended government-backed export credits.

It asked Common Market partners to do the same. West Germany, France, the Netherlands, Italy and Belgium stopped arms sales earlier this week. Neutral Austria and Switzerland, which are not members of the community, also have banned arms sales to Argentina.

British Unions: No Overtime

PATCHWAY, England, April 9—Trade union bosses have banned mechanics from working overtime to recondition aircraft engines for the British Navy's Falklands-bound task force.

The union committee at a Rolls Royce factory in this town outside Bristol in western England refused to allow six men to work over the Easter holiday reconditioning Pegasus engines for the Navy's Harrier jump jets.

The committee adhered to an overtime ban that was imposed at the factory three months ago because 800 jobs were to be cut.

"The committee said they would be willing to let work go on in an emergency," protested one worker. "If the Falklands isn't an emergency what is?"

But a union official said the engines were spares and the committee ruled that the work was not that urgent.

Falklands to Get Color TV

COMODORO RIVADAVIA, Argentina, April 9—The 1,800 residents of the Falkland Islands, overrun by an Argentine military force last week, were told today of their first benefit under Argentine rule.

The islands will get color television service in time for the soccer

World Cup championship finals from Spain in June and July. Three British teams—England, Scotland and Northern Ireland—and Argentina are among the 24 finalists at the World Cup.

The Falklands at present only have radio service in English. Few Falklanders understand Spanish.

U.S. asks to check on citizens in Falklands

By Alfonso Chardy
Inquirer Washington Bureau

WASHINGTON — The United States has asked the Argentine government to allow U.S. diplomats onto the Falkland Islands to visit the small group of Americans living there, U.S. officials here, and in Buenos Aires said yesterday.

"Our consul is now in the process of securing permission from the Argentine government to visit the Americans in the islands," said a U.S. Embassy spokesman in Buenos Aires who was contacted by telephone.

Thus far, the Argentine military government has not allowed U.S. diplomats or any other foreign officials to visit the British archipelago, which was occupied a week ago by Argentina.

The U.S. officials said there have been no reports that the few dozen Americans living in the Falklands have been harmed or have asked to be evacuated. Communication with the Americans has been difficult because of the military operations and the lack of diplomatic access, the officials said.

"As far as we know, no one has been allowed to leave the islands," except for expelled officials and British troops captured during the initial invasion, the officials said.

State Department spokesman Alan Romberg said yesterday that the Americans in the Falklands were "fine." He said, "We have been in

touch with the Argentine government and there is no problem."

With the help of the Argentine government, the department has been able to contact 29 of the 33 Americans known to be living on the islands, press spokesman Joseph Reap said yesterday.

He said all 29 were believed to be in good health. None, he said, had taken advantage of an offer from the Argentine government to be taken off the islands, presumably to Buenos Aires.

The whereabouts of the six other Americans is unknown, Reap said.

Romberg said other Americans have been warned to stay away from the islands during the emergency.

The U.S. Embassy in Buenos Aires said that some of the Americans on the islands were members of the Baha'i religion. Robert Blum, a spokesman for the Baha'i National Center in Wilmette, Ill., has said that at least 21 Americans — 12 adults and nine children — living in the Falklands are Baha'i members.

The Baha'i faith, begun in 1844 in what was then called Persia and is now Iran, has a goal of the worldwide unity of mankind to make all wars cease.

In Buenos Aires, the U.S. Embassy said the other residents of the islands include private citizens who had gone to the islands to work.

"There is an artist, a well-digger, environmental specialists and others," the official said.

Argentines preparing for battle

Troops called up to reinforce isles

From *Argentine News Services*

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina — Argentina poured more reinforcements into the Falkland Islands yesterday, broadcast air raid instructions in a major coastal city and warned that it would defend itself if Britain attacked.

In an effort to avert hostilities, U.S. Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. was flying here from London, where he had held five hours of talks with British leaders. He is to meet with Argentine President Leopoldo F. Galvez and Foreign Minister Nicoré Costa Mendez.

Labor and political leaders, echoing a call from a Buenos Aires radio station, urged Argentines to gather in the Plaza de Mayo across from Government House this morning in a mass show of support for the seizure of the Falklands after 149 years of British rule.

Although it was Good Friday, hundreds of people waited outside the Defense Ministry to volunteer for military duty. Officials said thousands had volunteered since the office opened Wednesday.

Argentina continued flying troops and munitions from coastal air bases to the Falkland Islands in preparation for a possible attack by a British armada that is heading for the archipelago 250 miles off Argentina's southern tip.

Reinforcement of the troops has been continual since the April 2 occupation, and newspapers quoted military sources as saying that 9,000 soldiers would be in place on the islands by the time the main part of the British fleet arrives in 10 days.

Some of the estimated 120,000 Argentine reservists mobilized earlier this week began rejoining the ranks. Urgent orders to report for duty went to those from a mechanized infantry brigade in the capital and an artillery regiment in Buenos Aires province.

Authorities in Mar del Plata, on the Atlantic coast 250 miles south of Buenos Aires and about 900 miles north of the Falklands, broadcast air raid instructions, telling residents to stay calm if sirens are heard but to take cover "under a bed or table away from windows and near the wall. lie face down covering your head with your arms and keep your eyes shut tight."

In London, Haig's five hours of talks with British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher Thursday night left alive a number of possibilities for a diplomatic solution, sources in London said. But they were unwilling to express either optimism or pessimism about the prospects of avoiding war.

They suggested that Britain still

(See FALKLANDS on 7-A)

Argentines prepare for Falklands battle

FALKLANDS, from 1-A

would be willing to settle for some form of British administration rather than continuing sovereignty over the Falklands. If Argentina withdraws its forces first and if a sovereignty settlement is acceptable to the 1,800 residents of the islands. The sources said this should leave Haig room to maneuver in his talks with Argentina's military government.

Although there had been hints earlier that Argentina might withdraw under certain conditions, Argentine Defense Minister Amador Frugoli said yesterday that "Argentina will not accept pressures of any kind and if our armed forces are attacked we will respond with corresponding energy."

Foreign Minister Costa Mendez has said Argentina was prepared to discuss all aspects of the dispute, but sources said two proposals for bilateral rule that have been suggested by the United States would not be acceptable.

The proposals are that Britain lease the Falklands for a fixed number of years from Argentina, as it leased Hong Kong from China, or that it share sovereignty with Argentina as France and Spain do with the Pyrenees principality of Andorra.

The British cruise ship Canberra, converted to a troop carrier, and a cargo ship that left England Thursday night loaded with tanks and other military equipment will be joining 27 British warships already

at sea. According to the British government, most of them are still a week or two away from the Falklands. The fleet is made up of two aircraft carriers, one assault ship, two light cruisers, five destroyers, five frigates, five landing ships, four fleet oil tankers and three supply ships.

Absent from the government's official list are several nuclear-powered hunter-killer submarines believed to have arrived in the South Atlantic. Other warships are being prepared for relief duty with the task force, and more civilian vessels, including oil tankers, have been requisitioned.

Analysts expect the task force to be used primarily to blockade the Falklands and possibly the ports of Argentina, which seized the islands off its southeast coast last week. They do not expect, at least initially, any British attempt to land troops on the islands.

A blockade by surface ships would make refueling a serious problem thousands of miles from the nearest British base, according to military analysts. But Britain appears to be depending, at least initially, on the ship-sinking threat of its nuclear-powered submarines, which do not have to surface or refuel.

The submarines are believed to be the weapon with which Britain has threatened to attack any Argentine warship or civilian ship being used for military supply purposes within a 200-mile radius around the Falklands.

6 B
Help Wa. Saturday, April 10, 1982

Philadelphia Inquirer 15



IN BUENOS AIRES, U.S. Ambassador to Argentina Henry Shlawdemann makes arrangements Thursday for the arrival of Alexander M. Haig Jr. to discuss the Falklands.

Argentina calls reserves; 2,000 more British troops embark

Converted liner loads marines, soldiers

By Ray Moseley

LONDON (UPI)—Argentina
On April 10, 1982

LONDON—The luxury cruise liner Canberra, converted to a troop carrier and with 2,000 men aboard, prepared Friday to sail from Southampton in support of the task force steaming toward the Falkland Islands that Britain threatened to set up beginning Sunday night.

In London, Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was off to the countryside for the long Easter weekend as British called back to await the outcome of U.S. efforts to find a peaceful solution to the conflict.

Secretary of State Alexander Haig, who spent more than five hours Thursday in talks with Thatcher and her aides, flew from London to Buenos Aires Friday morning to meet Argentine leaders.

Haig operated under a tight deadline, as Britain has announced it will impose a naval blockade around the Falklands

starting Monday and Argentina has vowed to oppose it.

THE BRITISH TOLD Haig the Argentines must end their occupation of the Falklands before there can be negotiations on a settlement.

The Canberra, which had been scheduled to leave Thursday night with holiday vacationers aboard for a cruise to the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean, instead carried 2,000 marines and soldiers.

THE GOVERNMENT RE- QUESTIONED THE Canberra and other civilian ships for the Falklands crisis, and workers worked Friday to secure helicopter landing pads to the ship's deck.

Defense sources said the Canberra was expected to be used principally as a floating barracks, probably off Ascension Island, and would not enter the zone of conflict. It also could see duty as a hospital ship if there is fighting, they said.

HATCHER WENT TO Chequers, the country retreat of prime ministers. Aides said she could keep in close touch with Falkland developments and would try to catch up on work that has piled up while she was preoccupied with the crisis.

The Rev Ian Paisley, a Protestant political leader in Northern Ireland, predicted Friday that Pope John Paul II will be forced to cancel his visit to Britain May 28 June 2 if war breaks out with Argentina, whose residents are predominantly Catholic.

Paisley had his followers strongly oppose the visit and plan demonstrations at most of the Pope's scheduled stops if it does take place. Organizers said earlier this week the visit would take place despite the crisis.

The government announced that, effective immediately, Argentines wanting to enter Britain would need visas. The two countries mutually abolished visa requirements in 1977.

Argentina calls reserves

Continued from page one

lands and their 1,000 inhabitants, some of them of English and Scottish descent.

In the Falklands, 480 miles off the Argentine coast, civilians reportedly fled inland for safety as 9,000 Argentine occupation troops dug in to defend the islands.

"IT IS NOT PURELY there right now," said Pamela Reid, who fled the British colony after the Argentine invasion.

"Many people are heading for the countryside to escape a possible battle for the city (Stanley)," she said.

Throughout the day, U.S.-built C-130 Hercules transport planes unloaded troops and arms on the islands from Comodoro Rivadavia, a port on the mainland.

Political sources said 9,000 troops were entrenched on the quiet islands that are home to 600,000 sheep and 1,000 English-speaking people known as Kelpers.

The main British armada—some 40 ships led by the aircraft carrier a sailing

side and Hermes—was 10 days to 2 weeks away from the Falklands but military sources said the nuclear submarine Superb was already in the South Atlantic and another submarine is en route.

IN BRUSSELS, THE 10-nation European Common Market confirmed Friday a ban on arms sales to Argentina following its seizure of the islands, a British diplomatic spokesman said.

But details of possible further trade sanctions against Argentina were still under discussion at a meeting of Common Market ambassadors.

Some diplomats from the countries have said a full embargo is possible, while others said it could be restricted to the key sectors of meat, other foodstuffs, shoes, textiles and steel.

Political directors from Common Market foreign ministries confirmed during four hours of talks that all supplies of arms and military equipment would be blocked in reprisal for the seizure of the islands.

By Ray Moseley

BUENOS AIRES, Argentina's rising military junta called several reserve units to duty Friday, hours before U.S. Secretary of State Alexander Haig was to arrive on a peace-making mission to defuse the Falkland Islands crisis.

Radioes read over commercial radio stations throughout Argentina told reservists to report to their units. Hundreds of war veterans signed up for duty as the predominantly Catholic nation observed Good Friday.

The government alerted nearly 100,000 reservists for possible duty Wednesday, but the men were told to stand by far to their orders. Military's announcement affected several reserve units but the exact number of troops was not immediately available.

The government in Buenos Aires and other points in central Argentina to give the reservists free travel to their military units.

Reports from both Britain and Argentina said many of the Falkland Islands' 1,000 English-speaking residents had requested evacuation for fear of being caught in the middle of a war. Some had already left. Britain asked the International Red Cross to stand by to help.

THE MILITARY JUNTA also called for a mass demonstration Saturday morning in front of the government offices in Buenos Aires where Haig will be meeting with President Gen. Leopoldo Galtieri.

In Washington, the Pentagon said a special warning had been sent to U.S. merchant ships to stay out of the 200-mile war zone Britain says it will impose around the disputed islands, which Argentine troops seized last week.

But it said the notice "in no way constitutes a U.S. government position regarding foreign claims or proclamations."

Galtieri warned Thursday that Argentina will fight Britain to keep the disputed Falkland Islands.

Vice Adm. Juan Jose Lombardo, commander of the newly created South Atlantic Theatre, met Thursday with Argentina's admirals in the port of Bahia Blanca to plan strategy for the blockade of the Falkland Islands that Britain threatened to set up beginning Sunday night.

"WE WILL LISTEN to Secretary Haig, but we are willing to repel whatever attack if the mediation effort fails," Foreign Minister Nicorato Costa Mendez said outside the navy command headquarters after meeting with Galtieri and other members of Argentina's ruling junta.

Britain threatened to sink ships within 200 miles of the islands. The blockade begins at 10 p.m. Chicago time Sunday despite the fact that a British armada sent to enforce it will not have arrived.

Argentina seized the bleak, treeless British colony 250 miles off its southern coast April 2 after years of disputing Britain's 150-year-old control of the is-

Continued on page 5, col. 5

U. S. experts say subs give Britain advantage

From Tribune Wire Services

WASHINGTON—The Royal Navy's nuclear-powered attack submarines would tip the balance in Britain's favor in a war at sea or a blockade of the Falkland Islands, U.S. military analysts said Thursday.

But logistics and geography make the outcome more doubtful for a British effort to reclaim the islands from Argentina.

Diplomatic sources in Buenos Aires said that although Argentina's navy is largely outdated, it "has considerable capability" and the strategic advantage of operating close to home.

The islands are only 230 miles from Argentina's coast but 8,000 miles from Britain. The Royal Navy would lack a lifeline to home for a sustained fight, analysts said.

British military sources confirmed Thursday that four nuclear-powered submarines will spearhead the blockade force, although they were not listed among 29 ships the government said were in the force. The force is smaller—but packs more men and firepower—than had been reported.

EXCEPT FOR the submarines, the armada must rely almost exclusively on fuel from home.

"Where will the British find a country in the area to give them a base to support that fleet?" asked one high-ranking U.S. officer. "There is none that I know of."

The British have the right to land supply planes on a 10,000-foot U.S.-operated runway on Ascension Island, 3,500 miles from the Falklands, but U.S. officials said it is highly doubtful that Britain could haul enough fuel and bulk cargo by air to satisfy its fleet's continuing requirements.

Newly arrived helicopters were reported at Ascension on Thursday, apparently brought there by British Hercules air transports.

U.S. military analysts declined to be identified, because of the balancing act

the U.S. is trying to maintain in the conflict between its two allies.

BUT THEY AGREED that Britain will have naval superiority when its flotilla begins to arrive in the 120,000-square-mile blockade area where it promises to sink any Argentine warship starting Monday.

One nuclear sub reportedly has already arrived off the Falklands and the other three are reported within two days of the area. Each carries 100 torpedoes.

The swift, deep-diving submarines could devastate the Argentine navy and its merchant marine, according to Royal Navy experts.

If mediation fails, British radar and periscopes will be searching for Argentina's only aircraft carrier, the 20,000-ton, 37-year-old British-built Veinticinco de Mayo.

British experts know every rivet and bulkhead on that ship. They also know the details of its 14 U.S.-built A-4 Skyhawks and assorted helicopters, surface-to-air and surface-to-surface missile systems, torpedoes and guns it and its escorts carry.

THE BRITISH flotilla includes two carriers, but each carries only five Sea Harrier fighter-bombers. The Defense Ministry said it also includes five destroyers, five frigates, two cruisers, an assault ship, five landing craft, four tankers, three supply ships and two civilian ships requisitioned by the navy.

Argentina's mostly antiquated fleet is no match. In addition to the Veinticinco, it has two cruisers, nine destroyers, two frigates and assorted smaller patrol, gun and torpedo craft. It also has four U.S.-built World War II submarines described as "slow, noisy, easily trackable."

Several thousand Argentine marines and troops are dug in on the Falklands after seizing the islands last Friday, and more are reported arriving daily.

The Argentine army has 100,000 men and reserves of 100,000 in the national guard and territorial guard.

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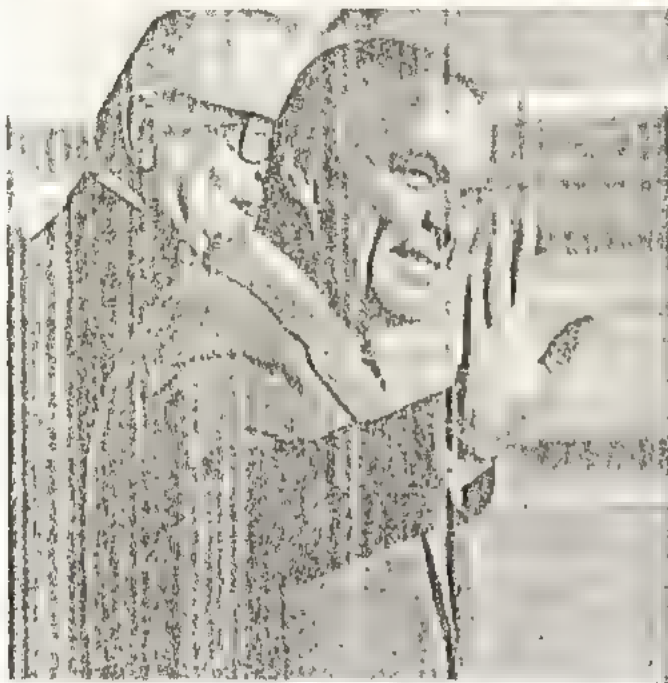
NEW YORK, SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1982

Bunny, low 50¢. Advance p. 2

CALL ARGENTINES TO 'WAR DUTY'

Story on Page 3

Argentina girds for war



Secretary of State Haig waves as he leaves London yesterday for Buenos Aires carrying message from British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher.

Coastal defenses are strengthened

By BARBARA REHM
Of The News Washington Bureau

Buenos Aires—Every Argentine was called to war duty yesterday—the military to beef up fortifications along the southern coast and the citizens in a huge demonstration to show Secretary of State Haig the nation's will to retain rule over the Falkland Islands.

With radios blaring battle tunes and the national anthem, Argentines bedecked the city with brilliant blue and white flags and prepared for war—and for negotiations—with only 40 hours to go before the British blockade begins.

Radio appeals called for a march today to the historic Plaza De Mayo in front of the government palace where Haig will meet with President Leopoldo F. Galtieri.

The march has been supported by all the political parties, civic organizations and the powerful Peronist Labor Federation, which on March 20 staged the largest antigovernment demonstrations in the six-year rule of the military junta.

The government broadcast mobilization instructions for 100,000 reservists who have been recalled to arms, in-

cluding reservists from the 1st Armored Cavalry Brigade.

HAIG, ARRIVING here last night from London, came to offer the Argentines "the good offices" of the United States in an effort to head off a full scale war between Britain and Argentina over Argentina's takeover of the British crown colony.

Haig will meet for several hours with government leaders ready, if not eager, for war. Britain has said its blockade of the islands will begin Monday. Galtieri has vowed to fight if there is a blockade.

He quickly moved yesterday to send more troops into the southern towns of Bahia Blanca, Rio Gallegos and Comodoro Rivadavia. An around the clock air bridge supplied troops and artillery to beef up the 2,000 Argentine troops already on the Falklands.

As the war preparations intensified with blackouts and defense maneuvers in the southern cities, diplomatic preparations also intensified.

FOR THE JUNTA, confronted with a soaring 143% annual inflation rate, the highest unemployment in more than a decade and grim lines outside soup kitchens at churches in the poorest neighborhoods, sovereignty over the Falklands is more than a matter of national pride. It is a matter of survival for the junta.

Pressured by the nationalistic fervor that the seizure of the islands ignited, Galtieri has vowed not to withdraw—not one step backward off the islands.

"The Argentines are ready to go at it like Kamikaze pilots," one political source said. "Withdrawal is out of the question. It would be political suicide."

No plain plane for Haig

By JOSEPH VOLZ

Washington (News Bureau)—Secretary of State Haig's peacekeeping mission to Britain and Argentina was delayed for 13 hours while the Air Force tried to repair the only plane available from its VIP fleet, which had been depleted by congressional junketeers.

Normally, the Air Force maintains five C-137 jet transports on standby at Andrews Air Force Base in suburban Maryland, 10 miles east of Washington, for overseas travel by government bigwigs. But one of the planes was undergoing routine maintenance, and President Reagan had taken Air Force One and a backup plane for his trip to the Caribbean when Haig was dispatched on his hurry up mission Wednesday afternoon.

Rep. Richard White (D-Tex.) had commandeered another C-137, the Air Force's version of the Boeing 707, for a House Armed Services Committee trip to Africa.

And House Majority Leader Jim Wright (D-Tex.) was about to take off for Latin America in the last C-137, but the plane developed oil pressure problems, and he had to switch to another, smaller, less prestigious plane.

At that point, enter Haig, who needed a suitable aircraft for his trip to London and later Buenos Aires.

The Air Force, which denies any strain on its VIP fleet, could have flown Haig overseas in another plane while the oil pressure problem in the last remaining C-137—the one Rep. Wright left behind—was being fixed. But this other plane would not have had the "creature comforts" of a C-137, officials concede. And after all, why should the secretary of state fly around in a lesser aircraft than a member of the House Armed Services Committee?

A State Department spokesman, asked why Haig didn't take off on whatever craft was available, replied only that the secretary's regular plane "was not available."

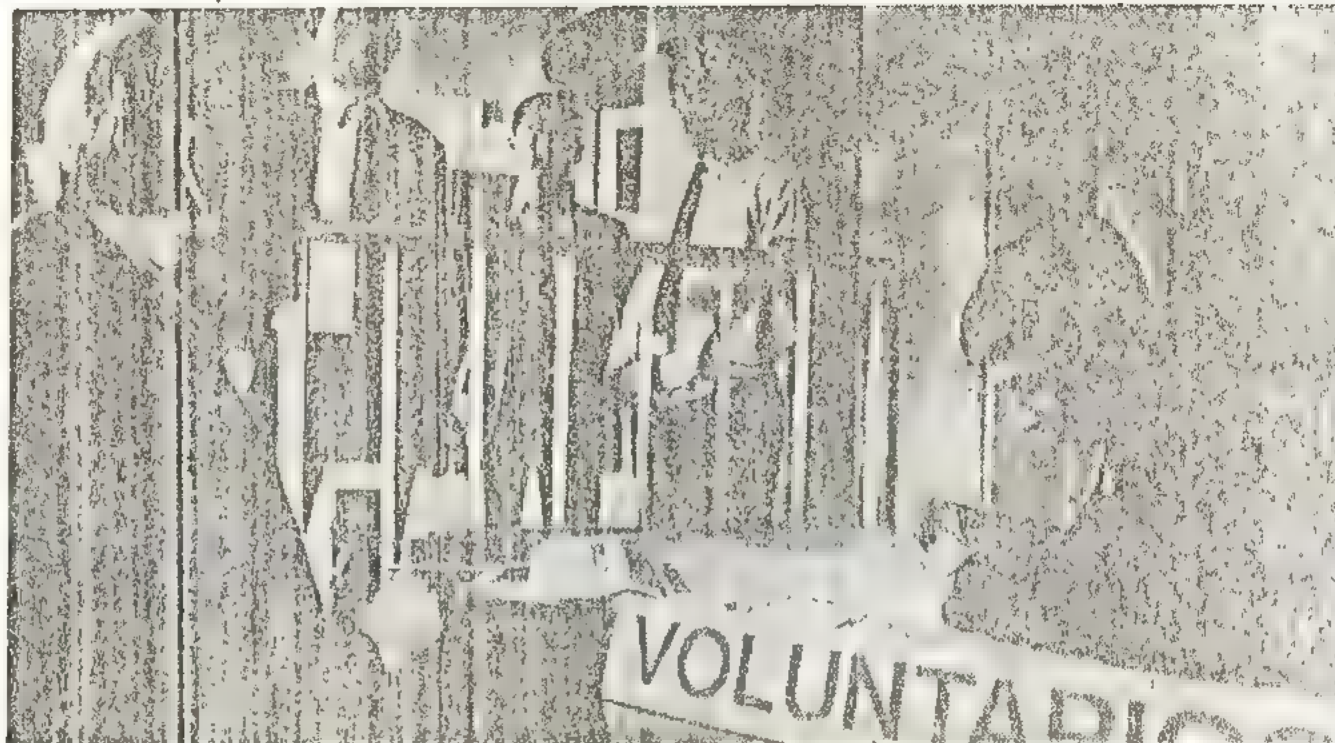
More Brits on the way

London (Chicago Tribune)—The luxury cruise liner Canberra, converted to a troop carrier and with 2,000 fighting men aboard, sailed from Southampton yesterday in support of the navy task force sailing toward the Falkland Islands and a showdown with Argentina.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher was off to the countryside for the long Easter weekend as Britain awaited the outcome of United States efforts to find a peaceful solution to the dispute.

The Canberra, which had been scheduled to leave Thursday night with holiday travelers aboard for a cruise to the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean, instead carried 2,000 marines and soldiers.

The government requisitioned the



Day News, Saturday, April 10, 1982

See **BRITISH** Page 11. One of several hundred Argentines gets papers in Buenos Aires allowing him to go to Falklands if needed.

WAR AND GAMES

A state-owned British company has offered its New York subscribers a cross between Pac-Man and the evening news—a video game that challenges players to sink the Argentine navy as it sails toward the Falkland Islands.

The game was made available to the 16,000 subscribers of British Telecom's Prestel service, which provides information such as financial news to home and office computers worldwide.

This week, Prestel subscribers suddenly had at their disposal "Obiter-ate," a bloodless version of what might happen when the British fleet reaches the islands off Argentina.

As the flagship of the Argentine navy moves across the screen, the player uses a typewriter-like keyboard to estimate the distance and the time of explosion before launching a torpedo toward the target—named the Fray Bentos after a well-known brand of Argentine corned beef marketed in the United Kingdom until recently.

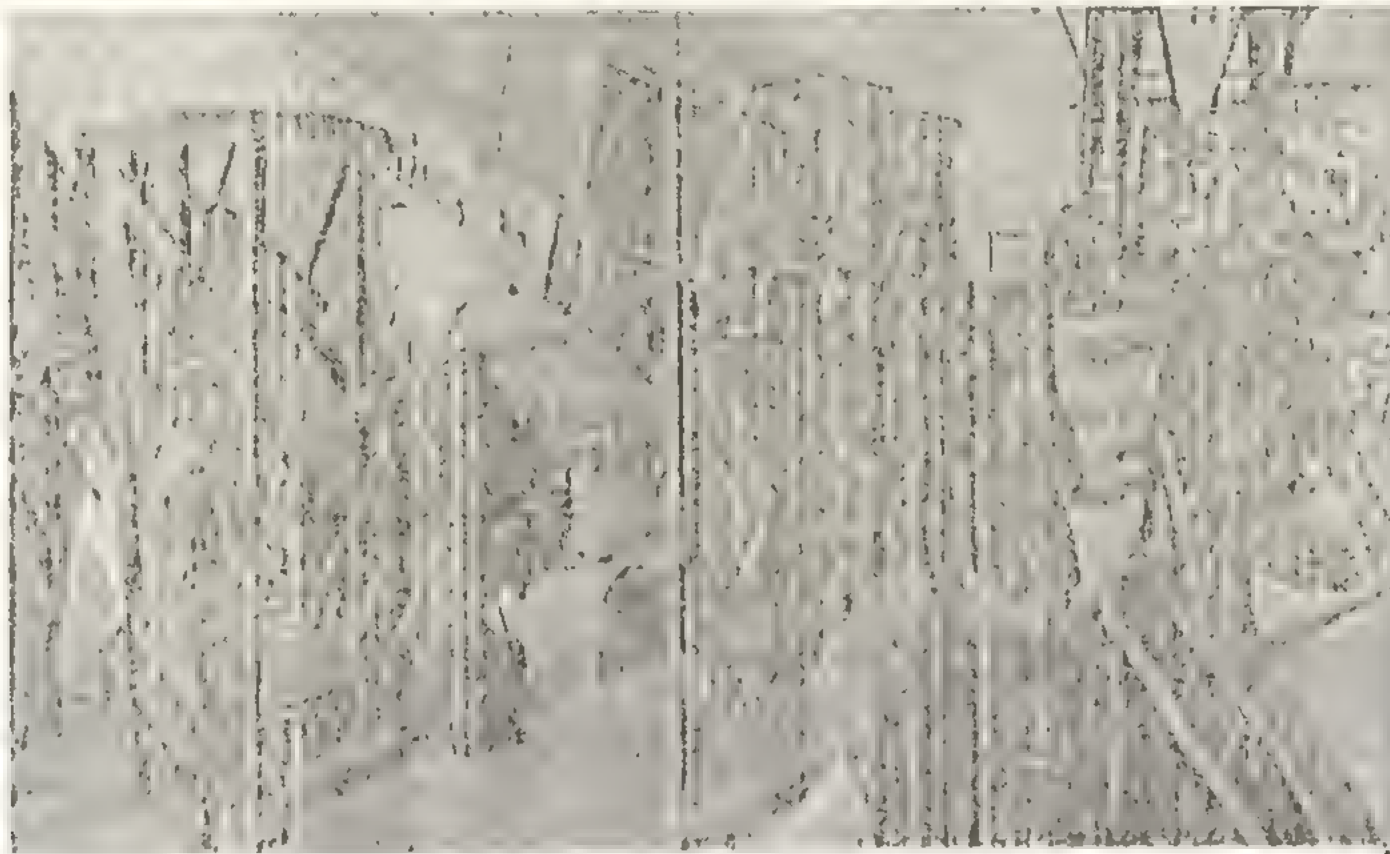
A direct hit destroys the flagship.

"Congratulations Horatio would be proud of you," the screen says, in a reference to Horatio Nelson, the British commander who destroyed the French fleet at Trafalgar in 1805.

"I'm not saying if it's in good taste, bad taste or irrelevant," a company spokesman said. "We have no complaints so far, and BT would not automatically remove it in response to complaints if it was legal anyway." ■



Argentine moves patrol waters around the Falkland Islands.



British troops board luxury liner Canberra in Southampton, England. Ship will join Royal Navy Falklands task force.

BRITISH

FROM PAGE THREE

Canberra and other civilian ships for the Falklands crisis and welders worked yesterday to secure helicopter landing pads to the ship's deck.

Defense sources said the Canberra was expected to be used principally as a floating barracks, probably off Ascension Island in the Atlantic between Brazil and Africa, and would not enter the zone of conflict. It also could see duty as a hospital ship, they said.

Thatcher went to Chequers, the country retreat of prime ministers. Aides said she could keep in close touch with Falkland developments and would try to catch up on work that has piled up while she was preoccupied

Avoid Falklands, U.S. ships told

Washington (News Bureau)—The Defense Department yesterday warned United States merchant ships not to sail within 200 nautical miles of the Falkland Islands in the South Atlantic, an area the British government has declared a war zone in its dispute with Argentina.

The notice, which did not specifically mention the planned British blockade of the Falklands, was described as "solely for the purpose of advising U.S. mariners of information relevant to navigational safety and in no way... a U.S. government position regarding foreign claims or proclamations."

All American merchant ships that might be in the danger zone were asked to acknowledge receipt of the warning.

sink any Argentine ship, military or commercial, found in the war zone beginning Monday.

FAKLANDS

FROM PAGE THREE

for this government, particularly now that the military appears determined to keep the islands at all costs."

Britain has said there will be no negotiations unless troops are withdrawn from the island.

FOREIGN MINISTER Nicanor Costa Mendez, the most upbeat of those involved in the talks, said after a meeting with the ruling junta: "We will hear Secretary of State Haig, but we are ready to repel any attack if the mediation fails."

Haig, who has repeatedly stressed that he carries no quick solution to the crisis, cannot afford to underestimate the temper of the population and the commitment of the government.

Political and diplomatic officials said in interviews that at best Haig may be able to buy some time for negotiations.

They said there was a chance that Haig could get the British and the Argentines to approve a compromise plan of limited Argentine troop withdrawals in exchange for the recall of the British fleet and assurances of Argentine sovereignty over the Falklands. The plan would also have to guarantee autonomy for the 1,600 islanders.

Haig Flying to Buenos Aires In Effort to Head Off a War

By EDWARD SCHUMACHER

Special to The New York Times

BUENOS AIRES, April 9 — Argentina continued to express defiance today as Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. flew here from London in search of a peaceful solution to the crisis over the seizure of the Falkland Islands from Britain.

More troops were reportedly flown to the Falklands during the day. A rally in front of the Presidential Palace to demonstrate national unity was called for Saturday morning, when Mr. Haig was due to meet inside with President Leopoldo Galtieri and other Argentine officials.

Foreign Ministry officials said they were willing to listen to any proposals that the Secretary might be carrying from London. But they said Argentina would insist on both sovereignty over the islands and the right to administer them.

That position was at odds with suggestions that Argentina would be willing to accept a compromise under which it would have sovereignty over the Falklands while allowing Britain to administer the islands for 25 or more years.

"Spirit of Sacrifice"

Britain has given Argentina until midnight Sunday, local time, before imposing a naval blockade of the islands that Argentine officials showed no signs today of backing down.

Defense Minister Amadeo Riccardi Frugoli told reporters in the provincial capital of Mendoza that Argentina would meet the naval threat with "energy, discipline and spirit of sacrifice" in the "glorious tradition" of the country's liberator, José de San Martín.

Foreign Minister Nicoré Costa Méndez said in a news conference that the Foreign Ministry that the British attitude was "sidelining" and had "no pretext." He said Britain had ignored the islands until now.

"It can't be that they send 40 ships to islands that they have not occupied for many years," he said, adding that the people of the Falklands depend on Argentina for food, fuel and medical aid.

Radio Station Calls for Rally

Argentina, which seized the islands in the South Atlantic a week ago, had provided most of the supplies for the 1,000 islanders under an agreement with Britain.

A private radio station called for the rally in the Plaza de Mayo outside the Presidential Palace. Opposition labor and political leaders exhorted their followers to attend.

Five major political parties that had been critical of the military Government said they wanted to meet with Mr. Haig to show the wide support in Argentina for the takeover of the Falklands.

A number of opposition political leaders offered to travel around the world to seek support for the Argentine case. A Christian Democratic leader went to Caracas to meet with members of Venezuela's Christian Democratic Government.

A Show of National Unity

In a further show of national unity, Foreign Minister Costa Méndez called his former foreign ministers from both civilian and military governments to inform them of the latest developments, a spokesman for the Foreign Ministry said.



Residents of Stanley watching armored personnel carriers being brought to the Falklands by the Argentine Army. The vehicles are identified as Amer-

ican-made LVTs amphibious assault vehicles, designed in 1971 for use by the U.S. Marine Corps and sold to several countries, including Argentina.

said.

Reports from Comodoro Rivadavia, a port more than 1,100 miles south of here that has been the departure point for troops sent to the Falklands, said military cargo planes continued to ferry soldiers and equipment to the islands.

About 10,000 Argentine troops have been sent to the islands in the last week.

"Perhaps we will still send some more troops to complete the planned deployment," said Gen. Osvaldo Jorge

Alzola, who commanded the force that seized the islands.

Still defense preparations were under way in almost all the coastal cities in the southern half of the country. Residents have practiced blackouts, and hospitals have prepared for possible casualties.

4 British Marines Still Held

In the coastal resort of Mar del Plata, soldiers and teachers were briefed by the chief defense authorities on Thursday on what to do in case of landward.

Reports from Comodoro Rivadavia said four of six British marines captured earlier this week on East Falkland Island were still being held in the Argentine port. Some reports said the marines had spread land mines on the island. All other captured marines had been sent to Montevideo, Uruguay.

The Argentine military announced that eight islanders had been allowed to leave on Wednesday. They said this action demonstrated the military's "attitude of respect for the individual liberties of the residents."

Not all residents, as they have agreed since taking the islands, had been a troop. Others, however, while others complained of the presence, adding that it was difficult to get permission to leave.

U.N. Told by Argentine Britain Plans Blockade

UNITED NATIONS, N.Y., April 9 (Reuters) — Secretary-General P. de Kock today told the Security Council that Argentina had taken note of a case filed by Britain against the proposed blockade of the Falkland Islands.

A statement issued in Buenos Aires and repeated in a radio broadcast by Eduardo Duhalde, the Argentine president, said the British government had rejected the offer of a 25-year lease of the islands. But Mr. Duhalde said a 25-year lease would be accepted by the Security Council. Saturday, the statement said, Argentina would withdraw its troops from the Falklands.

Britain Fears Time Is Running Out For a Peaceful Falklands Solution

By R. W. APPLE Jr.
Special to The New York Times

LONDON, April 8 — British officials said today that time might be running out for a peaceful settlement of the dispute with Argentina over the Falkland Islands.

The officials said only Secretary of State Alexander M. Haig Jr. had a chance of persuading Argentina to withdraw its troops from the Falklands so that negotiations could begin before the British Navy imposes a blockade in the waters surrounding the islands.

Efforts to persuade Argentina to withdraw its troops from the Falklands have been hampered by the fact that any Argentine ship found within 200 miles of the islands.

Haig Flies to Argentina

Mr. Haig left here early today on the long flight to Buenos Aires, where he will see Argentine leaders tomorrow.

Argentine officials expressed continued defiance, saying that they would insist on both sovereignty over the Falkland Islands and the right to administer them. More Argentine troops were reported flown to the islands and a rally to demonstrate Argentina's national unity was scheduled for Saturday [Page 6].

In London, Secretary of State Haig was said by American sources to have been impressed with the vigor of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's stand. When he emerged on Thursday from six

hours of talks with her and with Francis Pym, the Foreign Secretary, he declined to assess his chances of success.

"I would not describe my attitude," he said outside 10 Downing Street. "It is still too early to say."

Compromise Solutions Weighed

He was reported to have discussed possible compromise arrangements for the future sovereignty and administration of the Falklands, but it was not known whether he had expressed any preferences. The meetings lasted three hours longer than planned, delaying his departure.

British officials were encouraged Thursday by Argentine statements that all issues except Argentine sovereignty were negotiable. But they were discouraged today by a Reuters report quoting Argentine Government sources as having said that Argentina would not accept a Hong Kong or Andorra style of administration in the Falkland Islands.

These two models were reportedly among those discussed by Mr. Haig and Mrs. Thatcher. Under the Hong Kong system, Britain would cede sovereignty to Argentina, then lease the islands back for a period of years. Under the Andorra system, British and Argentine would share sovereignty in the Falk-

Continued on Page 6, Column 1

BRITISH AIDES SEE TIME RUNNING OUT

Continued From Page 1

lands, as France and Spain do in the Pyrenees principally.

Other possibilities under discussion are a British acceptance of Argentine sovereignty, with British administrators remaining in de facto control; a system of dual citizenship for the islanders under Argentine control; control by the United Nations, and arbitration by an international body. But no talks on any of these ideas can begin, the British insist, until the Argentine troopships.

With the blockade deadline approaching and the British fleet steaming southward, British officials said they had no sign that Argentina intended to respect the blockade now announced on Wednesday in the House of Commons by Defence Minister John Nott. A ministry spokesman warned all merchant ships inside the zone to "take care," but he did not say that they would automatically be fired on.

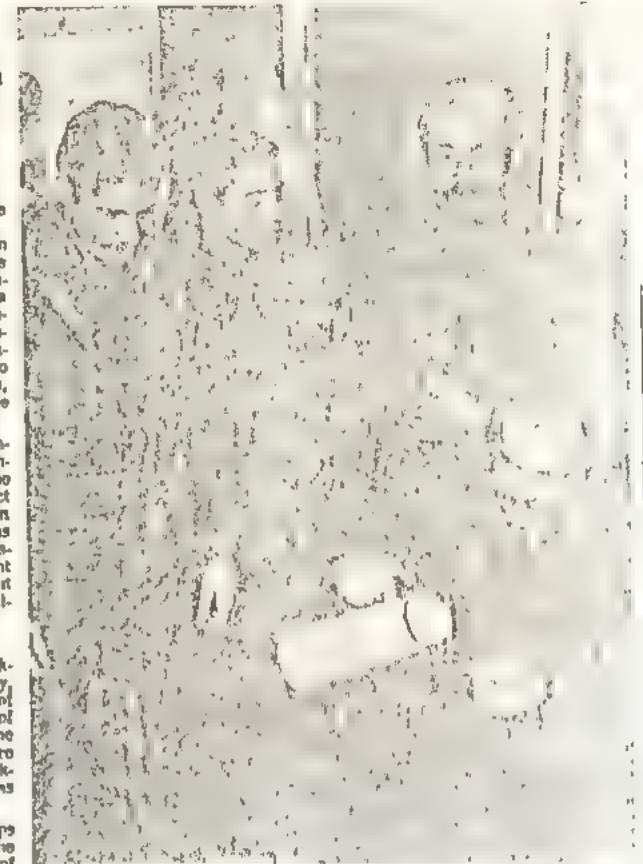
Ships in Rendezvous Off Azores

All the main warships in the Falklands armada had sailed by noon today, one week after the Argentine seizure of the South Atlantic archipelago. Most of the warships met on Thursday off the Azores in good weather, but they were told that gales lay ahead. In the Falklands area, the weather was reported as "gusting storms of some intensity."

One of the two large civilian ships commandeered for the flotilla, the North Sea ferry Elk, slipped out of Southampton during the night, loaded with heavy equipment, including tanks. She normally operates between Middlesbrough, England, and Göteborg, Sweden.

The other vessel, the cruise liner Canberra, had been expected to sail yesterday, but it took workmen longer than expected to strip luxury furnishings from the white-hulled ship and to install two helicopter-landing decks. Carrying almost 3,000 marines and members of the Third Battalion of the Parachute Regiment, the Canberra finally left on the flood tide tonight.

Although British ports bustled with activity, there was no sense of crisis or urgency in London. Except for the tourists, the streets were deserted as the four-day Easter holiday began. No newspapers appeared, and a security



United Press International
Argentines preparing units, a South American tea, in an occupied building.

guard commented, "We'll have our weekend first, then start worrying about the war."

Mrs. Thatcher went to her official country residence at Chequers, 33 miles northwest of London, intending to return if needed. She was reported by political associates to believe that the future of her Government depended on restoring the Falklands to British control, with or without fighting.

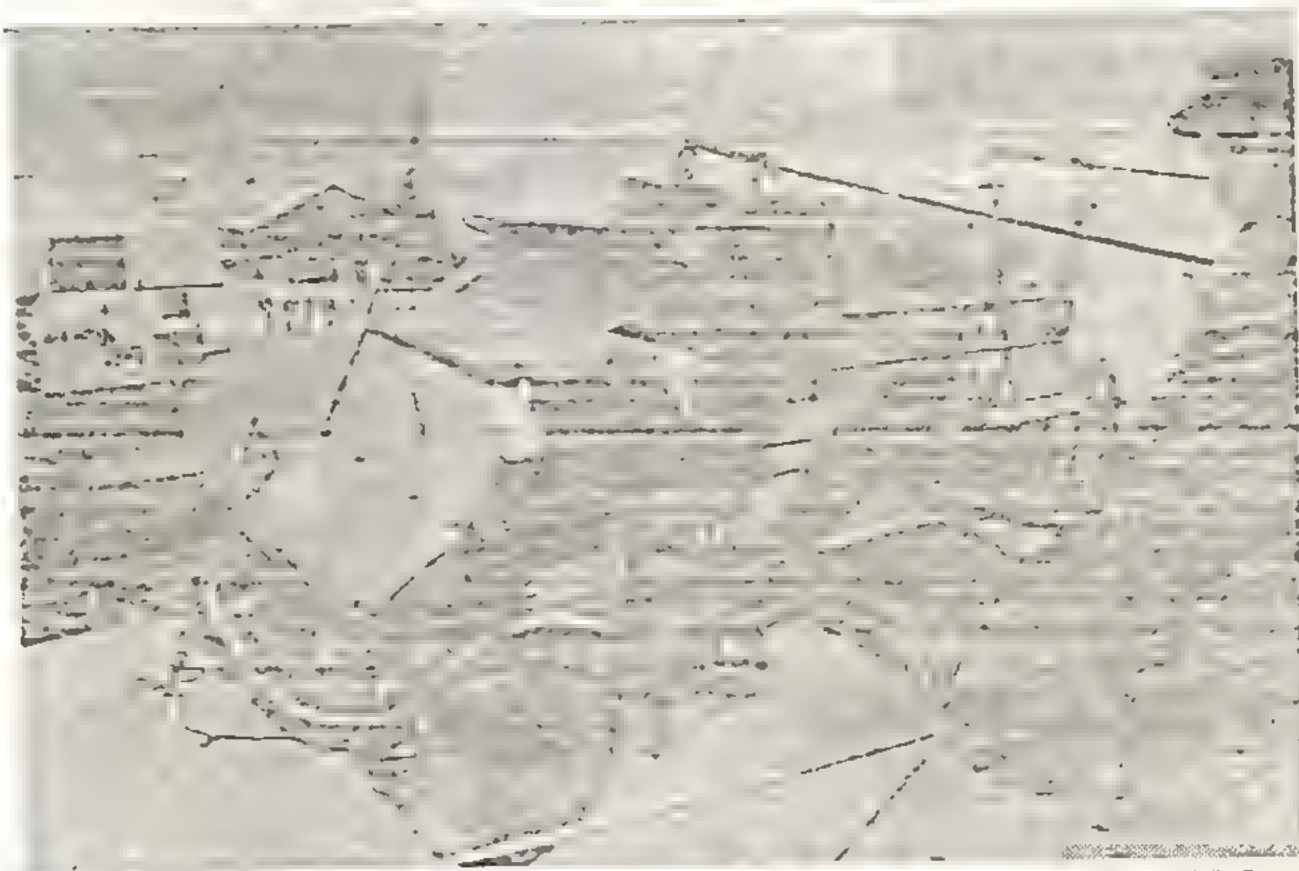
Although the opposition Labor Party has in general endorsed the Conservative Government's actions so far, a group of Laborite legislators, including the party chairman, James Douglas, demanded today that Mrs. Thatcher re-

call Parliament on Saturday or Sunday. The House of Commons began a 10-day Easter recess on Thursday.

"It is intolerable," the opposition said, "that a war might begin without parliamentary debate about the opportunities for negotiation."

In Brussels, Britain continued its pressure for Western European sanctions against Argentina. A meeting of ambassadors to the Common Market confirmed a ban on arms sales but did not reach agreement on wider trade sanctions. Some members favored a complete embargo, but others said it should be limited to meat, other foodstuffs, shoes, textiles and steel.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1982



Editorial Credit: Skyline Features

An army vehicle being unloaded from a ship in Stanley, capital of the Falklands, as Argentina builds up its troops and supplies in the islands. The West German-built truck carries a communications antenna.

Moscow Says Britain Is Threatening Peace With Falkland Fleet

By JOHN F. BURNS

Special to The New York Times

MOSCOW, April 9 — Tass, the Soviet Government's press agency, said today that the dispatch of a British naval force to the Falkland islands had created "an immediate threat to international peace and security."

The commentary, which also called for a peaceful resolution of the crisis, represented a hardening of the Soviet Union's position and suggested that Moscow might be preparing a fresh initiative at the United Nations. The Russians abstained earlier in the week when the Security Council voted to condemn Argentina's seizure of the islands.

After the vote, a Foreign Ministry spokesman here said that the Soviet Union wanted to remain neutral. But the statement was accompanied by one that accused Britain of having precipitated the crisis by refusing United Nations' demands for the decolonization of the islands.

The Tass commentary today went a step further, depicting the dispatch of the naval force and Britain's warnings that, starting Monday, it will sink any Argentine vessel found within 200 miles of the Falklands as classic expressions of imperialism.

Although critical of Britain, the commentary left open the Soviet position on two issues — the legitimacy of Argentina's seizure of the Falklands, and the ultimate sovereignty over the islands.

Diplomats here believe that the Soviet Union, while eager to form closer ties with Argentina, which is a supplier of meat and grain, is reluctant to sanction the use of force in the settlement of an international dispute.

THE NEW YORK TIMES, SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1982

London Help Is Sought To Evacuate Falklands

LONDON, April 9 (Reuters) — A group of Falkland Islanders have asked the British Government to evacuate the local population before hostilities break out there, and Britain has asked the International Red Cross to take "an interest" in the fate of the Falkland Islanders.

The request for evacuation was contained in a letter from prominent Falkland Islanders, but a spokesman for the Falkland Government here disowned the appeal, saying it was not an official one because it was not signed by any elected official of the Falkland Islands Government.

The British Government's Falklands Office said the letter, which reached British officials in Uruguay through British evacuees since Argentina captured the islands a week ago, was composed by the head of the police force and a group of 15 civil servants.

The letter is for "temporary" evacuation of the Falkland population before Britain's naval task force, which has orders to fight if necessary to restore British rule, arrives in the area.

Argentine Newspaper Seeks Government Help on Boycott

BUENOS AIRES, April 9 (AP) — The Buenos Aires Herald appealed to the Government today to intervene in a boycott against it by newspaper distributors who accuse it of being pro-British in the Falkland Islands conflict.

The English-language newspaper, 80 percent owned by the Evening Post Co. of Charleston, S.C., and 40 percent owned by local Argentine interests, has been selling copies from its editorial offices since the boycott was started Tuesday by the Argentine Newspaper Distributors Association.

The association ordered members to stop distributing the 106-year-old paper to more than 1,000 newsstands throughout the Buenos Aires area.

The newspaper, which normally sells 17,000 copies daily, sold 5,000 on Thursday.

Monday, April 12, 1982

The Washington Post

JACK ANDERSON

Argentine Move May Be Warmup For Antarctica

The Argentine invasion of the Falkland Islands may be a warmup for a future assault on Antarctica. But next time, U.S. toes may be tramped on.

Secret CIA documents point out that the conditions that led to this month's Argentine aggression in the South Atlantic apply even more strongly to Antarctica: (1) a reported abundance of oil; (2) the desire to divert the public's attention from domestic strife; (3) a longstanding legal claim; and (4) national pride.

The CIA papers give this background on the Falklands furor: An oil-thirsty Argentina hopes "to lay the basis for a claim to oil deposits believed to exist near the Falklands" and, at the same time, to create "a useful diversion from domestic turmoil."

According to the CIA, a British research team, attracted by the scent of oil, made a foray into Falkland waters in 1976. As the British approached the islands, "a series of intercepted naval communications [indicated that] an Argentine destroyer sought to halt the British research

vessel Shackleton near the islands and threatened to fire into its hull when the Shackleton refused to comply."

This incident on the high seas was a prelude to today's British-Argentine showdown over the Falklands. Explains the CIA: Argentina has "refused to recognize British sovereignty over the Falklands, and the century-old dispute has been made worse by Argentine suspicions that [the British have been exploring for] oil deposits in the area."

There have been similar tensions over the Antarctic. Relates the CIA: "Overlapping claims of the United Kingdom, Argentina and Chile at the Antarctic peninsula [have] sparked much political heat and, at least once, even gunfire."

The United States, which explored the frozen continent in the 1820s, has more right than the other claimants to the Antarctic. But instead of claiming the land, the United States sought to mediate the dispute and persuaded the rivals to sign a 1959 treaty temporarily setting aside their claims.

Nevertheless, Argentina has continued to assert sovereignty over a portion of Antarctica and has bolstered its claim by performing marriages and flying pregnant women there to give birth to Argentine citizens on the disputed territory.

Secret White House documents also point out that "Argentina geographically dominates the ocean routes between the South Atlantic and Pacific Oceans Were the Panama Canal not operable or available, or in the event of a protracted war, this route would have a high strategic importance"

My associate Dale Van Atta, who recently visited Antarctica, found that Argentina has been forceful in pressing its territorial claims. The Argentine junta has been stimulated no doubt by the discovery of rich oil and mineral deposits on the icy continent.

Given the same incentives that led to the Falklands adventure, the Argentine generals may eventually decide to occupy the Antarctic peninsula, intelligence sources suggest. Any such move would have to overrun a permanent U.S. base staffed by scientists.

The secret White House papers urge "a concerted diplomatic effort to reach some agreement with Argentina Such an effort could possibly head off what otherwise might become a divisive [issue] which would adversely affect the excellent U.S.-Argentine cooperation in Antarctic research and logistics, or might have even more serious consequences for our relations."

2 Argentine Dailies Defend English-Language Herald

By Peter

BUENOS AIRES, April 9—Two leading Argentine newspapers today defended the English-language Buenos Aires Herald, which has been forced off newsstands for three days because of the Falkland Islands dispute with Britain.

Distributors refused to deliver the 17,000-circulation daily, accusing it of defending British interests. The action reduced sales to 6,000 copies, which were sold from the paper's office.

But the popular daily Clarin said in an editorial today that the attitude of the distributors was unfortunate: the Herald "has often had opinions severely opposed to the government in power, but these have always been expressed with serenity and balance. The publication is perfectly integrated to the Argentine way of life."

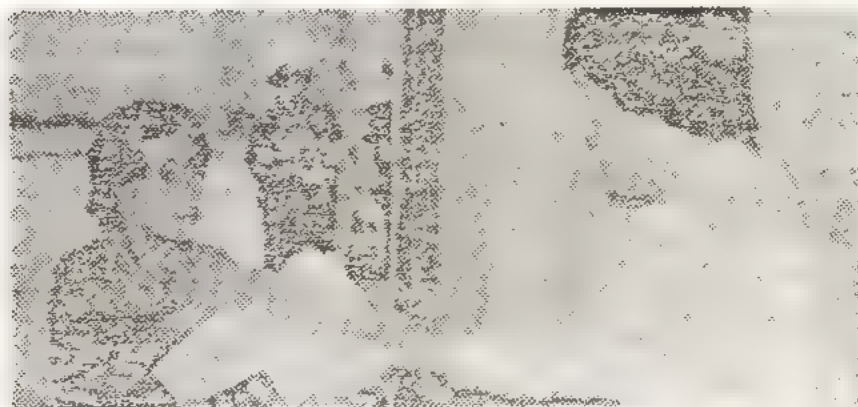
The authoritative, progovernment La Nacion said in an editorial that the government should have reacted to put an end to "the unhappy decision. Freedom of the press cannot be subject to decisions of explosive emotions."

[Former editor Robert Cox told

United Press International in Charleston, S.C., that the Herald "took the editorial position long ago that the islands should be integrated into Argentina with the approval of the local population." Cox fled Argentina in 1980 after he and his family received death threats following publication of human rights abuses. He was editor in exile until January, when he became assistant editor of The News and Courier, whose parent firm, the Evening Post Publishing Co. of Charleston, owns 60 percent of the Herald. The other 40 percent is held by Argentine interests.

"I understand the distributors were leaned on heavily by government officials," Cox said. "Then the distributors promised it would be fixed last night, but a high-ranking military officer leaned on them again, and they are frightened."

"But at least 2,300 people came to the office, which is sandwiched between the Argentine White House and Pentagon, to get the newspaper," he said. "We had to print 1,000 extra because we sold 6,000 copies. Today even more came by. It was an incredible sight, I'm told. That's a brave thing to do in Argentina."



United Press International

A reader of English-language Herald buys at the plant to evade distributors' boycott.

Ascension Island Gets Goods To Reprovision British Force

Reuter

LONDON, April 8—Ascension Island, a volcanic island in the middle of the Atlantic, could hardly be better placed for its new role as a staging post for British forces heading for the Falkland Islands.

The 34-square-mile island lies exactly halfway on the 6,900-mile route being sailed by a British fleet to the South Atlantic colony seized by Argentina last Friday.

Its long airstrip constantly receives giant Hercules C130 transports ferrying in supplies from Britain. Soon jumbo jets requisitioned from British Airways are expected to begin landing troops.

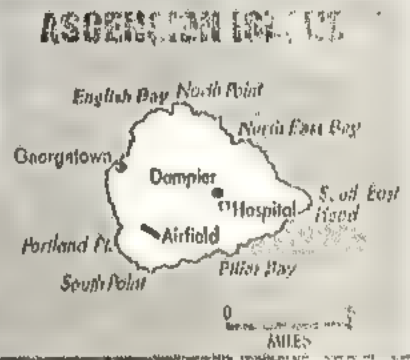
Administrator Bernard Pouncefort has appealed to the island's 1,400 inhabitants not to give away secrets in letters or telephone calls.

"The Falkland Islands situation is a very grave one," he told a British radio interviewer. "Let us not make it more hazardous by careless talk."

Ascension will be able to feed supplies by sea or air to the British naval task force as its warships sail past the island on their way to the South Atlantic over the next week.

It could also have a key strategic role if British troops attempt to retake the Falklands from the 5,000-strong Argentine garrison there.

Aircraft could ferry troops and supplies to the Falklands from Ascension but with an important limitation. They would not have enough fuel to return and Britain would first need to secure the airport at Port Stanley on the Falklands or build a new airstrip.



By Dave Cook—The Washington Post

Ascension, teeming with turtles, land crabs and sea birds, was discovered by the Portuguese on the Roman Catholic holiday of Ascension Day in 1501.

It remained uninhabited until 1815 when the British lodged Napoleon as a prisoner on St. Helena, only 750 miles away, and established a small garrison on Ascension. The island returned to obscurity on Napoleon's death in 1821.

It was described by one British commandant as "about as strange a place as there is on the face of the Earth."

Today it is dotted with transmitter aerials denoting its role as a communications relay post. Several hundred Americans operate the air base on lease from Britain—a condition being that Britain can use it in a crisis—as well as a satellite-tracking station.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1982

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

The Falklands Crisis

Mary McGroarty ("Friends," April 6) sprinkles references throughout her column to the battle of Trafalgar, Evelyn Waugh, Prince Andrew, the dastardly use of Argentine marines to subdue peaceful British shepherds, etc., to demonstrate how a continental power is once again picking on the brave island race. Her Anglophilia is showing. I am somewhat surprised that she left out Winston Churchill, the Mother of Parliaments, Magna Carta and the White Cliffs of Dover.

Her point seems to be that American foreign policy should rest on the cornerstone of human rights—a case incidentally for which she makes no convincing arguments—and that the 1,300 British Falkland Islanders deserve better than the tenuous protection of the Argentine constitution. Perhaps so. It is, however, difficult to make a case for "friendship" with Britain based on its human rights record. I defy Miss McGroarty to find significant differences between Amnesty International's recent analyses of human rights violations in Northern Ireland and in Argentina.

The American position on the Falklands should be based solely on the issue itself. The position of the Argentine is unimpeachable aggression by any means, in any form, is intolerable. It is not wrong because of the country's violations of human rights; however, any more than the British are somehow culpable in the Falklands because of their indefensible actions in Ulster. Miss McGroarty's emotional defense of Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher's government, seemingly based on some sort of atavistic idealized vision of Britain, serves only to cloud the issue.

TURLOUGH PAOLAIN
Lexington Park, Md.

I would like to congratulate Miss McGroarty for her cogent and outspoken comments on the invasion of the Falkland Islands, but I have been disgusted by some other commentators who seem not only to have given up any belief in the principles of the Declaration of Independence but also to be incapable of deducing logical implications.

British rule of the Falkland Islands was clearly a regime "deriving its just powers from the consent of the governed." There is no evidence of any local desire to exchange British rule for Argentine rule.

The passage The Post quotes from Samuel Eliot Morison [For the Record, April 4] shows that the Argentine claim is based on an occupation lasting 12 years, a century and a half ago, of territory to which Britain had a valid legal claim though it had not consolidated that claim by occupation; and that, though the Argentine settlement was ended by U.S. action, the settlers welcomed repatriation to Argentina.

If this is sufficient basis for a valid claim by Argentina, then Mexico has a stronger claim to Texas and California. The United States had no prior legal claim to either territory and the Mexican occupation was longer and more consolidated than the Argentine occupation of the Falkland Islands.

If they had any consistent objective, those who argue that Britain should be



By Philip Miller for the New York Times.

ready to negotiate away its sovereignty over the Falkland Islands and should not act against the invasion by Argentina should also argue that the United States should start negotiations for the return of Texas and California to Mexico and should not resist if the Mexicans agree to move in.

LINDSAY B. BRICKER
Cherry Chase

Richard Cohen's column on the Falkland crisis ("To War? To War?" Metro, April 6), while equating the crisis with the Marx Brothers "Duck Soup," does manage to present his essential point: that the islands are too small and economically insignificant to shed blood over; that this should be beneath Britain's dignity; and that such "an economically embattled democracy [Britain] ought to use its resources to improve the lives of Britons, not to fight Argentina over some islands it does not need and probably should not have."

I wonder what Mr. Cohen would tell the Falklanders if he had a chance to meet them, say at a town meeting or local pub. He might have a little difficulty explaining to them why they should be placed under the rule of one of the most corrupt dictatorships in Latin America to save Britain's dignity. Of course, Mr. Cohen might argue as he also did in his column that there are only 1,300 of them and that they are sheep. What difference it makes whether they raise sheep or build cars is not on me. He seems to define interests and rights in economic, as opposed to political, terms.

It is obviously decided that it was more important for them to oppose the settlement of such disputes by military occupation than to vote their anti-colonial views. Supporters of the resolution included Guyana, Ireland, Japan, Jordan, Togo, Uganda and Zaire, as well as France, the United States and the United Kingdom. Only Panama voted no. For their own reasons China, the Soviet Union, Poland and Spain abstained. Abstention is a common means of demonstrating reservations without obstructing action.

A diplomatic solution to this problem is clearly desirable. United Nations machinery offers one, though not the only approach to agreement. Its use should not be deprecated.

DAVID H. POPPER

Washington

I am intrigued by The Post's statement that "Argentina immediately contested the British claim of sovereignty of the Falklands in 1833" ["Argentina Seizes British Colony," front page, April 7]. Apparently the use of the word "immediately" is not in the usual sense, inasmuch as the earliest that Argentina could have possibly contested the claim would have been 1853, the year it came into being as a sovereign country. Before that, there was no Argentina.

ROBERT K. W. GIDEON

Fairfax

When, Mr. Cohen, do you fight? Should self-interest be the only determining factor in conducting a nation's policy? Perhaps you should ask yourself the question of whether governments should stand for principles. Here, two principles are at stake: first, the principle of national sovereignty (as defined by the United Nations); and second, the principle of a government meeting its obligation to defend its subjects' rights—in this case the Falklanders' wish to remain British. After all, except for numbers, what is the difference in violating the freedom of one man, 1,300, or 49 million (the population of Britain)? Isn't the principle the same?

BRIAN CLOSE

Washington

The Post's April 4 editorial, "Argentina's Aggression," erred in criticizing the United Nations Security Council and the organization as a whole, for its performance in this matter.

In fact the Security Council acted promptly and decisively. Avoiding the verbosity that characterizes so many U.N. resolutions, it called for a ceasefire, the withdrawal of Argentine forces and a diplomatic solution to the differences between Britain and Argentina. These are the parameters within which the international community will exert its influence toward settlement.

It is no discredit to the Security Council that only 10 of its 15 members voted for the resolution. Absent a veto, one is a quorum.

Those voting affirmatively included states with an interest that would be case for occupation. The Falklands are after all, a British dependency.

SATURDAY, APRIL 10, 1982

A 15

Lewis H. Lapham

Tragedy To Farce To Tragedy

The crisis in the Falkland Islands brings to mind the story, preserved within the oral tradition of the British Foreign Office, of Capt. Hornsby and his gunboat.

In the 1880s, when England was still an empire and Lord Salisbury was prime minister, a sultan somewhere in Africa committed an unspeakable offense against the canons of civilized behavior and the sovereignty of the British crown. Lord Salisbury summoned Capt. Hornsby of the Royal Navy, instructing him to to sail up the heathen river and deliver to the sultan a stern remonstrance. Either the sultan ceased and desisted or her majesty's government would take important action. The captain asked what he was to do if the sultan refused to accede to the ultimatum. Lord Salisbury considered the question, and then, mumbling in the approved diplomatic manner, said: "Well, yes, of course . . . well, you'll have to steam away, won't you?"

The captain took his gunboat to Africa and proceeded upriver to the sultan's compound. Knowing that if the sultan resorted to a test of arms he had no hope of victory, the captain made a show of noisily running out his guns. He went ashore with as much pomp as he could muster; attended by flags, drums and smartly dressed marines. The sultan listened politely to the sermon from London. "And what happens, captain," he said, "if I reject this singularly insolent communication?"

The captain bowed and unobtrusively placed his hand on the hilt of his sword. "Although I assure your highness that I would do so with profound regret, I would have no choice but to carry out the second part of my instructions."

The sultan went as pale as it was possible for him to do and promptly capitulated to the British demand. Upon his return to England, Capt. Hornsby was promoted to the rank of admiral.

But that was long ago and in another world, and Queen Victoria is dead. By the time the British naval squadron arrives in the South Atlantic, the Argentine generals will have had two weeks in which to organize a political and military defense.

When Karl Marx noted that history repeats itself, he went on to say that what in the original context played as tragedy became, in the recapitulation, farce. For the time being, the press cannot help but describe the crisis in the Falkland Islands as anything other than comedy. A second-rate power and a third-rate power menace one another with total war, and the effect is absurd. The islands under dispute, populated chiefly by sheep, lie well outside the zones of urgent geopolitical concern.

If the British admiral sinks the entire Argentine navy, a feat that apparently could be accomplished in a single salvo, it is likely that anticolonialist mobs will burn British consulates throughout Latin America. Each country can then destroy the other in the credit markets, by means of impounding assets and repudiating debts.

Because people expect nothing serious to happen, they can make jokes about tinpot dictators in Buenos Aires and doddering imperialists in London. It has occurred to people that both the British and the Argentines have stirred up the passions of national pride, but surely they will come to their senses before the fleet arrives; surely they will see that even if a few thousand people should be drowned or burned alive, they would gain nothing from the enterprise.

The comic aspects of the Falklands crisis obscure the unpleasant possibility that maybe it is the small wars that have become unthinkable. About the big wars, the supposedly unthinkable nuclear wars, people at least know what to say. They might not know what the words mean, but they have instructions to follow, budgets to plan, meetings to attend.

But if the whole world has been transformed into the Balkans, what does one say to the British and the Argentines? The tinpot dictator precari-

ously governs a country seething with riot and corroded by the decadence of an economy that spawns an annual inflation rate of 150 percent. The appeal to patriotism, so fierce in Argentina that three people recently were arrested for failing to stand during the singing of the national anthem, distracts public attention from the miseries of a police state.

Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has made an equally passionate appeal to national honor. The royal yacht, Britannia, has been pressed into service as a troop ship. The Tory government stands or falls on the result in Patagonia.

A nation mourning its glorious past opposes a nation embittered by its failure to emerge into a glorious future. Both countries already have lost too much of their self-esteem. Who can measure the feelings of unrequited rage that might, in a moment of exultant pleasure, seek release in the act of self-destruction?

That is the trouble with farces in the latter decades of the 20th century — they run so rapidly back to blood-stained tragedy.

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Colman McCarthy

A2

Saturday, April 10, 1982

THE WASHINGTON POST

An Easter Message From Latin America

He sees himself as anything but a holy man. But during Holy Week, Adolfo Perez Esquivel of Argentina, the 1980 Nobel Peace Prize winner, is bringing himself close to the spiritual meaning of Lent, Good Friday and the Resurrection. He is fasting and praying. Out of concern for—and in union with—the suffering of the victims of the violence in El Salvador, Perez Esquivel began a water-only fast last week in Washington.

In the chaotic politics of El Salvador, with the world watching and the poor dying, the symbolic actions of Perez Esquivel may seem to rest on the furthest fringes. But if peace in El Salvador is the goal, surely an acclaimed peacemaker—one who has been jailed and tortured for his beliefs—has a role. This age is too quick to stick the label "dreamer" on anyone who operates from only a moral base.

I asked Perez Esquivel about this during a long interview the day after he came to Washington. He spoke of the difference between moral power used to serve the poor of Latin America and political power exerted to dominate them. When it came up that both he and Henry Kissinger were Nobel Peace Prize laureates, Perez Esquivel smiled at the odd company he keeps. It's true, he said, that both he and Kissinger talk peace. But "the difference [between us] is greater than the Atlantic Ocean. He speaks of peace from a position of domination. I speak of peace from a position of trying to understand the poor of the world and their needs."

The evening before our conversation, Perez Esquivel led a candlelight march from a center city church to Lafayette Square. At the church, a service had been held in memory of Archbishop

Romero, slain two years ago in San Salvador. To the peaceful assembly, Perez Esquivel said that visitors like himself "from Latin America are not pity-seekers... We say to those who look upon us as a poor continent and as poor people, listen, we are poor but we are poor with dignity and we are poor struggling for our own liberation."

Another speaker—more the firebrand, more the dispenser of guilt—might have taken off from that thought into a hullhorn denunciation of the Reagan administration's chumminess with Latin American dictators. But Perez Esquivel is here seeking rapport, not disquiet.

"I've seen a change coming about in the American people," he told me. "A critical consciousness was lacking about what was going on—the lack of liberties—in other countries. But in the past few years, I've seen an awak-

ening... What was lacking to Americans was information they needed to really understand and judge the reality of other countries."

With information finally getting through—from the visits to the United States by leaders like Perez Esquivel, Cardinal Arnaldo of Brazil; such powerful books as "Cry of the People" by Penny Lemons; films like "Missing"; visits to Latin America by popes Paul VI and John Paul II—it is unlikely that Americans will revert either to ignoring Latin America completely or dismissing it as the land of siestas and sombreros.

No mistake should be made. The message brought to the United States by a Perez Esquivel is being heard and understood by large numbers of Americans. Perez Esquivel is not stroking his hosts when he says that "this solidarity of the American people has already helped a great deal in confront-

ing the problems of injustice in the countries in Latin America."

Perez Esquivel, 50, who organized the Service for Peace and Justice in Latin America in the early 1970s, is a watched man in Argentina. Death threats are common. Travel is restricted. The day before his fast began, he learned that one of his three sons was reportedly among hundreds picked up by the Argentine police in an anti-government protest organized under the call for "bread, peace and work."

His son's detention—part of the continual denial of human rights in Argentina—is why Perez Esquivel said that his fast was not only for El Salvador but for his own country too. Praying and fasting during Holy Week, he said, symbolizes the conditions in which "the people of Latin America are living. We live with all the suffering and pain with the hope of the Resurrection."

lizzards that have

Benn asks if nuclear weapons are at sea

Continued from page 1

the Labour front bench. Mr. Healey, in a faltering speech, failed to live up either to the occasion or to the resolute words of his leader, Mr. Michael Foot, on Saturday.

Mr. Healey may have been affected by the convoluted arguments within the Labour Party about what should be done, but seldom has he made a less effective speech on such an important issue. After a lengthy preamble on past events, Mr. Healey clearly angered even some of his own benches by his failure to say clearly what course of action should be taken. An exasperated Mr. Robert Mellish, a former Labour Chief Whip, intervened angrily at one point to ask him what was the logic of his argument.

Was he saying, Mr. Mellish asked, that having got the

fleet to the islands it should then turn back and go home? Mr. Healey said that he was coming to that question — but he never did.

In one of his more forceful passages, Mr. Healey said that the central concern of the House was for the islanders themselves, their rights and what they would accept.

□ Mr. Benn was jeered by Conservative MPs, and most of his Labour colleagues looked on in silent fury when he repeated his demands (Philip Webster writes).

Earlier in his challenge to Mr. Benn Dr. David Owen said: "It is about time he faced up to some of the responsibilities and decisions he took in government and did not parade himself around the country as a symbol of conscience."

'We will buy property' Costa Mendez says

Continued from page 1.

His remarks were disputed by Señor Costa Mendez, who said that the islanders were free either to stay or to leave. He added that any of them who choose to leave would be compensated. "We will even buy their property," he added.

Sir Nicholas also said he had received an assurance from Mr. Haig that the United States would not resume arms sales to Argentina while the present dispute lasted. The Reagan Administration has been trying to get Congress to reverse a decision by the previous Carter administration to impose an embargo on Argentina because of human rights abuses in that country.

The American Administration has come in for considerable press criticism

for not taking a stronger pro-British stance in the dispute.

Meanwhile a special meeting of the Organization of American States (OAS) is to be held in Washington tomorrow morning to consider the present situation in the Malvinas Islands that is endangering the peace of the continent.

A resolution is to be submitted to the meeting prepared by Colombia, Ecuador and Costa Rica. The resolution was being drafted this morning.

On Monday Señor Costa Mendez said that his government was considering invoking the 1947 Rio Defence Treaty should Britain attempt to recapture the islands by force. The treaty lays down that an attack on one of the signatories of the treaty should be considered an attack against all of them.

FALKLANDS

sold the Falkland Islanders down the river and was totally inconsistent with the objectives the Prime Minister set herself to see the islands freed from occupation and returned to British administration.

The other danger was that of a large scale military conflict with the Argentinians in circumstances which cost them the support of the United Nations and world opinion. In such circumstances, even if they won in such a conflict, they would be seen and thought to have acted inconsistently with the Security Council resolution.

The situation of the Islanders following their victory would be intolerable. They would permanently be threatened by the threat of a new invasion which they had been told on Saturday that Britain could not conceivably give permanent protection against.

Perhaps the most dangerous scenario of all would be for an all-out assault on the Falkland Islands. This would be at a time when they were dangerously weak in air power and the Argentinian forces would have had another two or three weeks to build-up their strength on the island and their stores and would outnumber the forces we could mount against them.

Colonel Jonathan Alford, a military strategist, had pointed out that the task force was not designed or equipped for a major amphibious landing. He had said that trying to storm the beaches against that sort of opposition would result in the Government being up to its neck in dead marines. (Conservative interruptions.) It was not defeatism to say that. The Argentinians could read that as well as he had.

What they needed at this time and all times was realism and calm. The hard facts of military reality could not sweep away all the flabby rhetoric or misquotations since Elizabeth I.

A mass landing would inflict intolerable casualties on the Falkland Islanders it was their duty to protect. They were not asking for the peace of the cemetery.

Somehow between these extremes they must seek and find a diplomatic solution which the Islanders could accept and was consistent with the commitment Britain had made to the Security Council. The main purpose of their task force was to give them the strength with which to negotiate.

Too many people without experience of war saw the choice always as between Armageddon and surrender. He hoped the principle of the economy of force would always be the key to the use of armed forces in a situation which required a diplomatic settlement. He hoped it could be confirmed Vice President Bush of the United States had been accepted by Britain at least as a sort of go-between.

Our central concern, interest and responsibility (he said) at the moment is the Falkland Islanders themselves; their rights, and what they will accept. We must allow no other consideration to impede the search for a solution acceptable to them.

The Government's record, had damaged its authority not just in Britain but throughout the world, as could be seen by the behaviour of the financial markets in the past few days.

It had also put the Opposition in the difficult and unenviable position of supporting the nation's interest even when that was represented abroad by a Cabinet which had lost its authority at home. (Labour cheers.)

We shall nevertheless (he went

wishes of the Islanders and the principles of the United Nations and that its actions are well calculated to fulfil those principles. That is where our confidence was badly shaken over recent weeks.

Last Saturday (he added) MPs on all sides of the house spoke to a united nation. We must continue to fulfil that honourable role so long as the present crisis persists. The Opposition will put the unity of the nation first. We call on the Government to do the same.

Mr John Peyton (Yeovil, C) said sorrow, shame and anger might not be good counsellors now. They could easily drive them to take as little account of the unpalatable circumstances which now confronted them as they apparently did of the growing and mounting danger. It was neither cowardice nor defeatism to take note of the formidable combination of difficulties they faced. (Some Conservative cheers.)

It was inconceivable in this country's present circumstances that such a huge naval base should be established as would render at all times the defence of the Falkland Islands beyond all doubt. It would involve not only an unacceptable cost but also a huge and equally unacceptable diversion of forces from their main role.

British forces were on their way to one knew not what. They must be assured of support. The Government must know that to hold out hopes now, which subsequent events, reasonably predictable, could see dashed, would be to make the situation worse. It must ally to it courage, caution and wisdom and be prepared to move slowly. It would need to watch with growing care the sympathy and support of friend which in foul weather could not be taken for granted.

Mr James Callaghan (Cardiff, South East, Lab) said Mr Peyton was an old friend, but he had made a bit of a defeatist speech. (Cheers.)

The world had shown a remarkable and rather surprising understanding of Britain's position. So far, so good. But when he heard Government spokesmen use the words "We are ahead on points", he felt a little squeamish.

This is not (he said) a game of tennis. It is a most serious operation.

The real question was whether the available evidence was of such a character that Mrs Thatcher should prudently have taken precautions at an earlier date. (Labour cheers.) The answer I must reach to that question (he said) is "Yes".

On March 3 Mr Richard Luce, then Minister of State, Foreign



Steel: Negotiating from strength

and Commonwealth Affairs, said that there was deep concern, deep anxiety.

If that was the feeling in the Foreign Office (Mr Callaghan added) I really would have expected some precautions to have been taken. (Labour



Pym: We mean business

this would be an unnecessary war.

The seeds of the invasion were sown when Britain's will to protect the islands seemed to be weakened in Argentina's eyes by the announcement in June, 1981, that Endurance was to be withdrawn. A card had been thrown away.

Pointing to the Government front bench, Mr Callaghan said, he had no confidence in those sitting on it. The Foreign Office and the Prime Minister got telegrams and intelligence assessments. Mrs Thatcher, every week, had the raw material, if she wanted it, under which these assessments were made. They were for her guidance.

It is for her to use her judgment on the information put before her (he said) and on this occasion she made a gross blunder. (Some Conservative interruptions.)

The Tories always threw a protective cloak around the Prime Minister when she was attacked but it was necessary to question her past in this matter if they were to consider what part she was to play in the future. They were living in a period of half peace and half war.

I urge the Prime Minister, (he said) to do what has been done on earlier occasions — to establish not only a group of ministers inside the Cabinet who would have to take full responsibility for handling these things, but also to ensure that there is some minister not distracted by day-to-day affairs, as other ministers will be, who can have charge and coordinate the interlocking and difficult task we have to face.

The present front bench had not the experience to handle these matters. There were other Conservative MPs of experience who should be invited and charged with this task.

It should be made clear to the United States that the UN resolution demanded the immediate withdrawal of all Argentinian forces from the Falkland Islands. That was the initial condition which must be met if the United States was to start putting forward conditions which Britain was asked to accept.

We look to the Prime Minister (he said) to give the lead in these matters. She has made a mistake by not taking that lead today and speaking to the House.

It was the responsibility of MPs to put jingoism on one side. Britain must do her best to secure peace with honour, and despite heavy criticism by Labour MPs of the Prime Minister and the Government, they would support that end.

Mr David Steel, leader of the Liberal Party (Bournemouth, Lib-eral), said that the Government



Healey: Disgraceful episode

responsible position, leading political parties had therefore no course but to support the Servicemen, in the expectation that the Government had a strategy and knew precisely what it intended to do.

The right aim was to safeguard the lives and freedom of the 1,300 inhabitants of the Falkland Islands. The object must not be to conduct a bloody battle for the recovery of imperial territory, much of which might be destroyed in the process.

By sending force, Britain would be negotiating from a position of strength.

The Government would be right, once withdrawal of Argentinian forces had been secured, to discuss condominium and lease-back proposals.

That was why "administration" was being used instead of "sovereignty" in ministerial speeches. They should consider the possibility of using the United Nations role as a means of getting Argentina off the hook of the British sovereignty argument. It would be right to explore the possibility of using the role of the United Nations.

The invasion had been an humiliating experience and a grave affront to the people of the Falkland Islands, above all, to the people of the United Kingdom. Mr Richard Luce (Shoreham, C), who resigned on Monday, said that for the future they must keep their sights on the objective and with the support of all parties in the House and of the country see two things done: The withdrawal of the Argentinian forces and the restoration of the right of the Islanders to choose their own way of life and allegiance.

To this and all diplomatic means must be used, working closely with Britain's allies and friends. At the end of the day, Governments, Parliamentary and country would know where their duty lay.

Mr Tony Benn (Bristol, South-East, Lab) said that what the House would unite upon was that an act of aggression in international law had taken place — nobody would defend the junta or government of Argentina or argue that it was anything other than an aggressive fait accompli.

There was all the difference in the world between the Government saying it was going to recover sovereignty of the Falkland Islands under the British flag — which the Prime Minister had hinted at — and saying all it wanted was an administration under anybody's sovereignty where the Falkland Islanders could be safe.

The Prime Minister must make this clear. She must say what she

Reagan sends Haig to two capitals in search of peace

From Nicholas Ashford, Washington, April 7

President Reagan today dispatched Mr Alexander Haig, the Secretary of State, to London and Buenos Aires in an urgent bid to find a way of settling the Falkland Islands dispute before the arrival of the Royal Navy task force in the South Atlantic.

Mr Haig, who held talks yesterday with the Argentine Foreign Minister as well as with the British and Argentine ambassadors, was due to leave Washington for London tonight.

[It was stressed in Whitehall last night (Anthony Bevins writes) that the Americans had agreed that a precondition of negotiations should be withdrawal of Argentine forces from the islands, and that they supported efforts to restore the islands to British administration and sovereignty. The Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary are to meet Mr Haig shortly after his arrival.]

The decision to send Mr Haig to the British and Argentine capitals was taken at a meeting which Mr Reagan held with his national security advisers early this morning. After the meeting the President left for a previously scheduled visit to Jamaica and Barbados for talks with Caribbean leaders.

Mr Haig was to have accompanied the President on his Caribbean journey. The fact that he has instead been sent to London and Buenos Aires reflects the seriousness with which the United States regards the possibility of an open clash between Britain and Argentina over the islands.

American officials have continued to deny that the US is attempting to mediate in the quarrel between its foremost western ally and a leading pro-western Latin

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ing that these were still preliminary discussions, they said Mr Haig's journey, which is at the invitation of both governments, was part of an American effort to use its good offices to help resolve the situation.

A White House statement read by Mr David Gergen, the President's Director of Communications, announcing Mr Haig's visit said: "In keeping with the initiatives the President has taken with Prime Minister Thatcher and President Galtieri and his offer of assistance, the President has directed Secretary of State Haig to continue consultations with the governments of the United Kingdom and Argentina in the interest assisting both parties in the search for a peaceful resolution of the dispute in South Atlantic."

Officials said that Mr Haig did not have a plan to offer the two countries, but would discuss ideas for a solution which have been under consideration for several days. These would include a plan whereby Britain would cede the islands to Argentina in exchange for their being leased back to Britain for a certain number of years, and also proposals for the 1,800 islanders to receive compensation in the event of their leaving the islands.

The Reagan Administration has derived some hope that a negotiated settlement can be reached from what they believe to be conciliatory statements made by senior Argentine officials.

nor Costa Mendez, the Argentine Foreign Minister, remarked after his meeting with Mr Haig last night: "I am confident we can solve our problem with Britain." He added that he believed an honourable and just peace could be reached through negotiations.

In New York, Senator Edward Roco, the Argentine representative, said that his country was prepared to discuss all three points made in the resolution on the Islands which the Security Council approved last week-end. The resolution called for a withdrawal of Argentine forces, a cessation of hostilities and urged both sides to seek a diplomatic solution.

Sir Nicholas Henderson, the British Ambassador, also said after his talks with Mr Haig that Britain would like to see a peaceful settlement of the dispute. But he made it clear that Britain would not negotiate with Argentina until the Argentine troops occupying the islands were withdrawn.

Sir Nicholas told a group of British journalists last night that he had emphasized during his talks with Mr Haig "our determination that we can't leave things as they are... we would like it solved by peaceful means if we can but if not we will use any other method if necessary to restore the administration and establish the principle of self-determination".

In his remarks to the press Sir Nicholas drew a parallel between the seizure of American hostages in Iran in 1979 and Argentina's forcible occupation of the Falklands against the express wishes of the Islanders. "You were very concerned when you had 52 hostages," he remarked. "We have 2,000 hostages down there. High principles are at stake."

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